

## American feverfew *Parthenium integrifolium*

Kingdom: Plantae

Division/Phylum: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Asterales

Family: Asteraceae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

### FEATURES

American feverfew is also known as wild quinine. This perennial herb has thick roots. The firm, rough leaves are oval to oblong and have toothed margins. The large, basal leaves and lower stem leaves have a long stalk. The lower and basal leaves grow to about one foot long and four inches wide. The tiny, white flower clusters look like cauliflower heads at the tip of the stem. Both disk (tubular) and ray (about five) flowers are present in the flowering heads. American feverfew may attain a height of two to three feet.

### BEHAVIORS

American feverfew grows in dry and moist prairies and dry woods throughout Illinois. Flowers are produced from July through September. A tea made from the leaves was used by early settlers to treat fever.

### HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

none

Woodland Habitats

upland deciduous forest

Prairie and Edge Habitats

black soil prairie; edge; sand prairie; shrub prairie

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