

climbing milkweed *Matelea obliqua*

Kingdom: Plantae

Division: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Gentianales

Family: Asclepiadaceae

ILLINOIS STATUS: common, native

FEATURES

Climbing milkweed, also known as oblique milkvine, can grow up to 10 feet or more in length. Leaves are arranged opposite each other on the stem. Seedpods grow up to three inches in length. Flowers are positioned in the leaf axils and are maroon in color.

BEHAVIORS

Climbing milkweed flowers May through June. It may be found in Hardin, Massac and Pope counties in Illinois. It grows in rocky woods. The seedpods have scattered projections.

Aquatic Habitats: none

Woodland Habitats: coniferous forests; southern Illinois lowlands; upland deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats: none

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