

common yarrow

Achillea millefolium

FEATURES

Common yarrow is also known as milfoil. This perennial herb has feathery, fernlike leaves that are arranged alternately along its upright stem. The lower leaves may grow to 10 inches in length. The stem may be smooth or hairy and branched or unbranched. Flowers are arranged in flat clusters at the stem tip. Two types of flowers are present. The outer flowers are white and raylike (up to six in number), while the inner flowers are yellow and tubular. Both types of flowers are fertile. The one-seeded fruit is dry and hard. Common yarrow may grow from one to three feet tall.

BEHAVIORS

Common yarrow may be found throughout Illinois. It grows in fields, field edges and roadsides. Flowers are produced from May through August. Common yarrow is a native of Europe that was transported to the United States with early settlers and has spread tremendously.

TAXONOMY

Kingdom: Plantae
Division: Magnoliophyta
Class: Magnoliopsida
Order: Asterales
Family: Asteraceae

ILLINOIS STATUS

common, nonnative

ILLINOIS RANGE





Aquatic Habitats

none

Woodland Habitats

none

Prairie and Edge Habitats

black soil prairie; edge