

green-flowered milkweed *Asclepias viridis*

Kingdom: Plantae

Division/Phylum: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Gentianales

Family: Asclepiadaceae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

FEATURES

Green-flowered milkweed is a perennial herb. Its leaves are arranged alternately along the stem. Each simple leaf is entire and oblong or lance-shaped. The green-violet flowers are borne in an umbrellalike cluster at the stem tip. The fruit is a dry follicle that splits along one side at maturity to release the seeds contained within it. Green-flowered milkweed may attain a height of one to three feet.

BEHAVIORS

Green-flowered milkweed may be found in the southern one-third of Illinois and Logan County. It grows in prairies, dry woods and fields. Flowers are produced from May through July. Pollination is accomplished by insects. Seeds are dispersed by wind.

HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

none

Woodland Habitats

coniferous forests; upland deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

black soil prairie; hill prairie

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