

Mead's milkweed *Asclepias meadii*

Kingdom: Plantae

Division: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Gentianales

Family: Asclepiadaceae

ILLINOIS STATUS: endangered, native

FEATURES

Mead's milkweed is less than two feet in height. The leaves are arranged opposite each other on the stem. Seedpods are about four inches in length. The flowers are positioned at the stem tip and are white to pale green in color.

BEHAVIORS

Mead's milkweed flowers May through June. It grows in southern, northeastern and central sections of Illinois. Mead's milkweed can be found in some mesic prairies and sandstone bluffs, but it is not common anywhere in the state or in its national range. The flower cluster nods downward. It is endangered in Illinois and threatened federally.

Aquatic Habitats: none

Woodland Habitats: none

Prairie and Edge Habitats: gravel prairie; hill prairie; sand prairie; shrub prairie

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