

nodding wild rye *Elymus canadensis*

Kingdom: Plantae

Division: Magnoliophyta

Class: Liliopsida

Order: Cyperales

Family: Poaceae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

FEATURES

Nodding wild rye is a perennial herb. Its smooth, upright stems grow to six feet tall. Its long leaves may be one inch wide. Flowers are arranged in dense spikes that are usually curved or nodding down when mature.

BEHAVIORS

Nodding wild rye grows in many habitats, including beaches. This plant flowers from July through October. It provides food for several animal species.

HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

bottomland forests; lakes, ponds and reservoirs; Lake Michigan; rivers and streams; swamps; marshes; wet prairies and fens

Woodland Habitats

bottomland forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

black soil prairies; hill prairies; edge

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