

**Inventory of Roadside Prairies
Illinois Department of Transportation
District 7**

**Illinois Natural History Survey
Center for Biodiversity
Technical Report (11) 2003**

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INTRODUCTION

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has been interested in mapping roadside prairie since 1992. A formal request was made in 1998 by Rich Nowack to map prairie while traveling to other IDOT project areas, and as time allowed. IDOT's justification for this project was to preserve prairie habitat, and limit accidental mowing and herbicide spraying of native prairie remnants. In 2000, IDOT made this project a priority. In the 2001 field season, a more detailed and systematic approach was taken to survey prairies in Illinois. This report and final GIS map is the result of the information gathered during the 2002 field season in IDOT District 7.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

A significant amount of remaining prairie in Illinois is located in joint rights-of-way of railroads and roads. This is due to the protection from cultivation and other disturbances. Using the Geographic Information System (GIS), a map of District 7 was generated for field use. This map has all areas marked where a road and railroad were within 400 ft of each other. Using this map, these areas were systematically checked for native prairie and savanna remnants. For the majority of the remnants, a limited survey was warranted. This consisted of stopping at regular intervals to generate species lists and gather data needed to characterize each site. If a remnant was higher quality, more time was spent surveying the remnant; however, the scale of this project made detailed surveys of each remnant impractical.

During 2001, IDOT District 5 was surveyed throughout the growing season (Handel 2002). Early surveys resulted in better recording of spring and early summer flora. The disadvantage of early sampling was that it was slower, and identification of warm-season grasses and forbs was more difficult. Warm-season grasses at this time often needed a close examination to identify species and abundance. Late surveys, especially September to October, allow for quick identification of remnants because the native grasses are the most visible at this time. The drawback of late surveys, is that spring and summer flora are overlooked because they have gone dormant or they are obscured by the taller fall

vegetation. A similar roadside survey conducted in Minnesota was conducted in late summer and fall (Bolin et al. 1988). To cover more area in 2002, surveying was done in two phases, April to July and then again in August to October. The first phase was to eliminate areas of roadsides that were destroyed or were very low quality. This saved valuable time during the peak survey period, summer and fall, when attention was focused on surveying extant remnants.

The following data were recorded on each remnant. The evaluator(s), date, and county were recorded for each site. GPS readings for starting and ending points were taken on the majority sites. On a few small sites a central point was taken. The location was mapped using roads and other reference points. A quality rating of 1, 2, or 3 was assigned to the remnants, with number 1 being the best quality and 3 being the poorest quality. Some remnants had a combination of two or more quality classes. For example, there could be one small high-quality section (1) within a larger degraded remnant (3). The type of plant community or communities that were present was noted, for example dry-mesic prairie. Width, distance to edge of pavement, and length of each remnant were recorded. Evidence of management or the presence of signs protecting prairie vegetation were noted. The status of the railroad and presence of prairie habitat on the side away from the highway also were recorded. Threats to each remnant were recorded. This included exotics, woody invasion, or man-made disturbances such as mowing, cultivation, or spraying. Finally, a species list was generated for each remnant. Species were excluded if they occurred just in the roadside ditch or in the railroad ballast. Exotics were only counted if they were found in the remnant. Relative abundance was recorded for each species observed on a 1 to 5 scale. Botanical nomenclature follows Mohlenbrock (1986). Community classification follows White (1978). I was very liberal with the lower rating class 3 prairie. Active management, such as controlled burning, probably has not occurred on these remnants for a long period. Vast improvement of similar degraded prairie habitat has been demonstrated after active management was implemented (Handel 2000). In other highway prairie studies after active management was implemented, prairie improved and some rare species maintained or slightly increased in abundance (Bolin et al. 1988).

TERMS USED IN SITE DESCRIPTIONS

Relative Abundance Values (RAV):

1. Rare
2. Occasional
3. Common
4. Abundant
5. Dominant

Quality Classes

1. This class was reserved for highest quality prairie remnants. These sites have a low abundance of exotic species. Forb diversity and density is high. In class 1, conservative prairie species are present. These sites roughly parallel a rating of Illinois Natural Area Inventory (INAI) grade A or B (White 1978). A more detailed survey, including quantitative data would be needed to determine if they truly qualify for INAI status.
2. These remnants still have a matrix of native forbs and grasses remaining. The prairie is somewhat degraded, however there is still some resemblance of a prairie community. Class 2 remnants are characterized by presence of the major warm-season grasses and disturbance-tolerant forbs. In some cases conservative species occur in low abundance. Class 2 prairie would roughly parallel an INAI rating of grade C.
3. Highly degraded prairie was ranked as Class 3. In class 3 remnants, prairie species were present but the community was highly disturbed. Exotic species usually dominate portions of the remnant. There can be some conservative species present, but the majority of the species are common prairie grasses and a few disturbance-tolerant forbs. Class 3 has also been reserved for areas that are solid stands of prairie grasses. This would be roughly parallel an INAI rating of grade D.

PRAIRIE COMMUNITIES IN ILLINOIS

Because of their rarity, species diversity, and vulnerability to habitat degradation, prairie communities are of special concern in Illinois. Prairie was the dominant community type in the state before 1820 (Iverson et al. 1989). After the invention of the steel plow, areas of prairie were quickly converted to agricultural crops. Of the estimated 22,000,000 acres of prairie that occurred in the state, only 2,352 acres of high-quality prairie remained by 1976, about 1/100th of 1% (White 1978). The amount of prairie in District 7 in 1820 was approximately 1,786,700 acres. In 1976, the total acreage of high quality prairie (A or B)

remaining in District 7 was 7 acres or 0.0004% (White 1978). There are no specific data on the amount of grade C - D prairie remaining in IDOT District 7. It is known that there has been a significant decline in prairie throughout the state since the Natural Areas Inventory was completed in 1976. Encroachment by woody vegetation, conversion to agricultural crops in railroad rights-of-way, and lack of management all have contributed to the decline of prairie communities statewide. The remaining grade C or D quality prairie remnants are an extremely important biological and economic resource. They may not be as floristically diverse as grade A or B remnants, but they serve important functions in the Illinois landscape:

1. They provide cover and dispersal corridors for prairie flora and fauna.
2. With the decrease in prairie habitat and the increased need for habitat reconstruction and restoration, remnants provide an invaluable source of seed of local ecotypes.
3. They provide refugia for species that have been eliminated from the nearby landscape and they sometimes link areas of higher quality prairies, allowing for the dispersal of species and genetic exchange from one remnant to another.
4. Because they are often linear in shape, they may cross several soil types and moisture gradients, creating a community of high floristic and faunistic diversity throughout a given landscape.
5. Practical benefits to highway departments include the potential for a reduction in the cost of roadside maintenance, and increased erosion control when native vegetation communities are present (USDT 1975).
6. Native prairie remnants that are managed correctly can also reduce the presence of exotic and noxious weeds along highway corridors.
7. Prairie remnants provide habitat for game species. Millions of dollars are spent each year on creating habitat for species such Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) and Northern Bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*). Often this artificial habitat consists of

one or two prairie grass species. These plantings may provide emergency cover from harsh winter weather, but they are inferior to the native remnants that provide not only cover, but also high concentrations of food from plant seeds and insects that exist in these natural remnants.

8. In areas of the state where habitat has disappeared because of development or intensive agriculture these remnants are often the only natural communities of any type that remain on a regional scale.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

General Information and Quality

Prairies are marked in **yellow** and numbered (1 to 37) on the map. This number corresponds to a data sheet in the report. The information is summarized in Tables 1 - 3. Eight additional sites were mapped but data were not collected. These eight sites were mowed several times during the growing season. These areas are mapped on the District 7 Prairie Remnant Map in red with a letter **M**. Prairie was seen at some of these sites in past years during other survey work. In late fall, the characteristic golden color of the native grasses was evident at these sites even though they were mowed. Several trips were made to get data on these areas. Unfortunately, the mowing never allowed for a proper survey. If the roadside mowing was limited to three feet past the roadside ditch and where intersections exist, this prairie survey would have been more complete. Local municipalities and farmers appeared to be mowing some of these remnants.

According to the GIS mapping, there were approximately 314 miles of joint roadway and railroad rights-of-way in District 7. Thirty-seven prairie and savanna remnants were located in these joint rights-of-ways in District 7 during the 2002-growing season, totaling 53.2 miles or (16.9%). Only 9 of 37 (24%) of the prairie remnants had significant prairie vegetation present on the far side of the tracks. The majority of the prairie, 23 of 37 (62%) was class 3 (the lowest quality prairie). Only 16 of 37 (43%) were in class 2 (medium quality) category. Only 5 of 37 (14%) prairie remnants were considered to be class 1 (highest quality) category. Dry-mesic prairie and mesic prairie were the communities most frequently encountered. There were two high quality dry-mesic savanna remnants located in District 7. Wet to wet-mesic prairies were rare with only 3 of 37 (8%) located in District 7. This is probably due to the intense effort to drain areas adjacent to roads and intensive tiling throughout Illinois. Only 7 of 37 (19%) of remnants surveyed had signs protecting prairie or indication of management and two of these were nature preserves. Protection frequently was designated only for small section(s) of these seven remnants and did not provide adequate security for preservation.

Table 1. General Information on prairie remnants in joint Illinois Department of Transportation and Railroad rights-of-way in District 7 including: quality, communities, evidence of management or signage, railroad activity. The percentage in the quality class and natural communities may exceed 100%, because some sites had more than one quality class or natural community present.

| Quality | # Sites (out of 37) | % of sites |
|----------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Class 3 | 23 | 62% |
| Class 2 | 16 | 43% |
| Class 1 | 5 | 14% |

Natural Communities

| | | |
|-------------------|----|-----|
| Dry-mesic prairie | 25 | 66% |
| Mesic prairie | 14 | 38% |
| Dry-mesic savanna | 6 | 16% |
| Wet-mesic prairie | 3 | 8% |

Signage or evidence of management (Burning)

| | | |
|-----|----|-----|
| No | 30 | 81% |
| Yes | 7 | 19% |

Railroad Activity

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----|-----|
| Active | 30 | 81% |
| Abandoned | 5 | 14% |
| Other (no railroad present) | 2 | 5% |

Presence of prairie on RR R-O-W opposite tracks

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----|-----|
| No | 27 | 73% |
| Yes | 8 | 22% |
| Other (no railroad present) | 2 | 5% |

Threats to Remnants

Roadside rights-of-way are affected by a multitude of human disturbance: mowing, salt, car emissions, ditch maintenance, herbicide application from both the roadside and railways, and the installation of communication and utility lines. These disturbances keep the structure and composition of these remnants in a constant state of fluctuation. The remnants that were found during this survey all show some form of disturbance. Exotics species are the main threat in District 7 effecting 34 of 37 (92%) remnants. Ten of the 37 prairies (27%) were degraded by mowing to some extent; this does not include the eight additional remnants that could not be surveyed because of continuous mowing. Woody invasion from both exotics and native species was a threat in 10 of 37 remnants (27%). Digging of plants might be a greater problem that indicated in this report; however, because of limited time spent at each site, evidence of digging is often overlooked.

Table 2. Type of threat and frequency among prairie remnants in IDOT District 7.

| Threats | # Sites (out of 37) | % of sites |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Exotics | 34 | 92% |
| Mowing | 10 | 27% |
| Woody invasion | 10 | 27% |
| Development/Construction | 9 | 24% |

Exotics

If exotics were limited to the railroad ballast or roadside ditch they were not considered a threat. Generally, if an exotic species occurred in the remnant and had an abundance rating of 3 or above it was considered a threat. The cool season grass *Festuca pratensis* (meadow fescue) was the most common exotic encountered occurring in 30 of 37 (81%). This is expected because meadow fescue was planted in the majority of roadsides in Illinois. This species often increase in prairie remnants that have not been burned for an extended period. They can also invade from adjoining pastures and hayfields. Meadow fescue appears do be a greater threat overall to prairie remnants in the southern half of Illinois. *Lonicera japonica* (Japanese honeysuckle) was the most common exotic woody species found in remnants.

Table 3. List of exotics that were a threat to prairie remnants in IDOT District 7.

| Scientific Name | Common Name | # Sites (out of 37) | % of Occurrence |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Festuca pratensis</i> | meadow fescue | 30 | 81% |
| <i>Lonicera japonica</i> | Japanese honeysuckle | 8 | 22% |
| <i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i> | autumn olive | 5 | 14% |
| <i>Phragmites australis</i> | common red reed | 5 | 14% |
| <i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i> | black locust | 3 | 8% |
| <i>Coronilla varia</i> | crown vetch | 2 | 5% |
| <i>Phalaris arundinacea</i> | reed canary grass | 2 | 5% |
| <i>Lespedeza cuneata</i> | Chinese bush clover | 2 | 5% |
| <i>Populus alba</i> | white poplar | 1 | 3% |
| <i>Morus alba</i> | white mulberry | 1 | 3% |
| <i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> | honey locust (thornless cultivar) | 1 | 3% |
| <i>Lonicera maackii</i> | amur honeysuckle | 1 | 3% |

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Site: District 7

N# 1

Date: 8/28/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Drivers Road 1400 N

County: Jefferson

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16S 0325794 - 4244362

GPS Data Ending UTM 16S 0325423 - 4244364

Quality Class: 2

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Woody invasion, exotics, development

Scientific Name

Common Name

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Prairie Width: 30 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.25 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: This site is degraded, and it appears it is slated for development.

Plant List for Site N#1

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Agrostis alba

red top

4

Ambrosia psilostachya

western ragweed

3

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

3

Andropogon virginicus

broom sedge

1

Asclepias hirtella

tall green milkweed

1

Baptisia lactea

white wild indigo

2

Bidens frondosa

common beggars-ticks

1

Boltonia diffusa

false aster

2

Cassia fasciculata

partridge pea

3

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

2

Desmodium cuspidatum

tick trefoil

1

Eupatorium perfoliatum

boneset

3

Euthamia graminifolia

grassleaf goldenrod

2

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

3

Helianthus mollis

hairy sunflower

5

Hypericum prolificum

shrubby St John's-wort

1

Juncus biflorus

rush

1

Potentilla simplex

common cinquefoil

2

Pycnanthemum tenuifolium

slender mountain mint

2

Scirpus pendulus

red bulrush

3

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

1

Solidago nemoralis

dyersweed goldenrod

4

Vernonia missurica

Missouri ironweed

2

Site: District 7

N# 2

Date: 8/28/2002 **Evaluator(s):** William C. Handel

Location: Mozart Road near Old Faithful Lane

County: Jefferson

GPS Data: UTM 16S 0319805 - 4243929

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics, development, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Lespedeza cuneata

Chinese bush clover

Prairie Width: 82 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 1 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.1 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: This site consists of several old fields with prairie vegetation. The area was mowed at least once between the spring survey and final survey. During the spring survey, these sites appeared to be more diverse.

Plant List for Site N#2

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

1

Cassia fasciculata

partridge pea

3

Coreopsis tripteris

tall coreopsis

3

Euthamia graminifolia

grassleaf goldenrod

2

Lactuca canadensis

Canada lettuce

3

Liatris pycnostachya

gayfeather

2

Rhus glabra

smooth sumac

2

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

3

Solidago nemoralis

dyersweed goldenrod

1

Sorghastrum nutans

Indian grass

1

Tridens flavus

purple top

2

Verbena hastata

blue vervain

2

Site: District 7

N# 3

Date: 8/28/2002 **Evaluator(s):** William C. Handel

Location: Mozart Road to Panzier Road

County: Jefferson

GPS Data: Starting UTM

16S 0318521 - 4243925

GPS Data Ending UTM

16S 0319326 - 4243942

Quality Class: 2

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic savanna

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics

Scientific Name

Common Name

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Lonicera japonica

Japanese honeysuckle

Prairie Width: 10-20 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 1 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.4 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: This remnant has some conservative species.

Plant List for Site N#3

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Agalinis tenuifolia

slender false foxglove

1

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

2

Andropogon virginicus

broom sedge

2

Bidens frondosa

common beggars-ticks

2

Boltonia diffusa

false aster

2

Campsis radicans

trumpet creeper

2

Carya tomentosa

mockernut hickory

2

Cassia fasciculata

partridge pea

2

Ceanothus americanus

New Jersey tea

2

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

1

Danthonia spicata

curly grass

4

Elymus virginicus

wild rye

2

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

2

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

3

Helianthus divaricatus

woodland sunflower

4

Leersia virginica

rice cutgrass

2

Lespedeza virginica

slender bush clover

1

Liatris pycnostachya

button snakeroot

1

Lonicera japonica

Japanese honeysuckle

3

Psoralea psoraloides

Sampson's snakeroot

1

Pteridium aquilinum

bracken fern

1

Quercus alba

white oak

2

Quercus imbricaria

shingle oak

2

Quercus stellata

post oak

1

Quercus velutina

black oak

4

Rhus aromatica

aromatic sumac

2

Sassafras albidum

red sassafras

1

Solidago missouriensis

Missouri goldenrod

2

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| <i>Solidago nemoralis</i> | dyersweed goldenrod | 1 |
| <i>Solidago ulmifolia</i> | elm-leaved goldenrod | 2 |
| <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> | Indian grass | 2 |
| <i>Tradescantia virginiana</i> | Virginia spiderwort | 2 |
| <i>Tridens flavus</i> | purple top | 1 |
| <i>Vernonia baldwinii</i> | Baldwin's ironweed | 1 |

Site: District 7

N# 4

Date: 8/28/2002 **Evaluator(s):** William C. Handel

Location: 400 N to IL-64 overpass

County: Jefferson

GPS Data: Starting UTM

16S 0319034 - 4247986

GPS Data Ending UTM

16S 0319005 - 4247023

Quality Class: 2

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic savanna/prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics

Scientific Name

Festuca pratensis

Common Name

meadow fescue

Prairie Width: 20 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 2 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.6 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: Some conservative species are present.

Comments: Some conservative species are present at this site.

Plant List for Site N#4

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

2

Asclepias purpurascens

purple milkweed

2

Baptisia lactea

white wild indigo

1

Baptisia leucophaea

cream wild indigo

1

Cassia fasciculata

partridge pea

2

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

2

Desmodium sessilifolium

sessile-leaved tick trefoil

2

Elymus virginicus

wild rye

1

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

3

Euthamia gymnospermoides

grassleaf goldenrod

1

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

3

Helianthus divaricatus

woodland sunflower

2

Helianthus mollis

hairy sunflower

4

Lespedeza virginica

slender bush clover

2

Liatris pycnostachya

button snakeroot

2

Quercus imbricaria

shingle oak

3

Quercus stellata

post oak

2

Rhus aromatica

aromatic sumac

1

Rudbeckia hirta

black-eyed susan

3

Salix humilis

prairie willow

1

Sassafras albidum

red sassafras

2

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

2

Sorghastrum nutans

Indian grass

3

Tradescantia virginiana

Virginia spiderwort

2

Tripsacum dactyloides

gamma grass

2

Vernonia missurica

Missouri ironweed

2

Site: District 7

N# 5

Date: 8/28/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL-148

County: Jefferson

GPS Data: UTM 16S 0320770 - 4223300

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics

Scientific Name

Common Name

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Lonicera japonica

Japanese honeysuckle

Prairie Width: 20 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.2 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#5

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Amorpha fruticosa

false indigo bush

2

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

5

Andropogon virginicus

broom sedge

2

Apocynum sibiricum

Indian hemp

4

Asclepias hirtella

tall green milkweed

3

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

4

Boltonia asteroides

false aster

2

Cassia fasciculata

partridge pea

2

Eupatorium perfoliatum

boneset

2

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

1

Euthamia graminifolia

grassleaf goldenrod

2

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

3

Gaura biennis

gaura

1

Helianthus mollis

hairy sunflower

2

Lonicera japonica

Japanese honeysuckle

3

Panicum virgatum

prairie switch grass

1

Paspalum floridanum

giant bead grass

2

Pycnanthemum tenuifolium

slender mountain mint

1

Quercus palustris

pin oak

2

Rudbeckia hirta

black-eyed susan

2

Scirpus pendulus

red bulrush

1

Silphium laciniatum

compass plant

3

Sorghastrum nutans

Indian grass

3

Symphoricarpos orbiculatus

buck brush

1

Teucrium canadense

American germander

2

Tridens flavus

purple top

1

Verbena hastata

blue vervain

1

Vernonia baldwinii

Baldwin's ironweed

1

Site: District 7

N# 6

Date: 8/30/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL-37 South of Ina starting at the Ina Correctional Center

County: Jefferson

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16S 0333131 - 4222348

GPS Data Ending UTM 16S 0333162 - 4223671

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics

Scientific Name

Common Name

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

Prairie Width: 15 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.8 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#6

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Ambrosia trifida

giant ragweed

2

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

2

Andropogon virginicus

broom sedge

2

Apocynum cannabinum

dogbane

2

Asclepias hirtella

tall green milkweed

2

Asclepias incarnata

swamp milkweed

1

Cassia fasciculata

partridge pea

2

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

2

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

4

Helianthus mollis

hairy sunflower

3

Oenothera biennis

evening primrose

2

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

3

Rubus allegheniensis

common blackberry

2

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

4

Tridens flavus

purple top

3

Vernonia missurica

Missouri ironweed

4

Site: District 7

N# 7

Date: 8/30/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL-37 North of Ina.

County: Jefferson

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16S 0333197 - 4225107

GPS Data Ending UTM 16S 0333313 - 4228735

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics

Scientific Name

Common Name

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Phragmites australis

common red reed

Prairie Width: 19 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 4 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 2 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: Highly degraded

Plant List for Site N#7

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

4

Andropogon virginicus

broom sedge

5

Apocynum cannabinum

dogbane

3

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

3

Cassia fasciculata

partridge pea

1

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

2

Daucus carota

Queen-Anne's-lace

2

Elymus virginicus

wild rye

1

Eragrostis spectabilis

purple love grass

3

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

5

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

3

Gaura biennis

gaura

4

Helianthus mollis

hairy sunflower

2

Phragmites australis

common red reed

3

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

5

Solidago nemoralis

dyersweed goldenrod

2

Sporobolus asper

drop seed

3

Verbesina helianthoides

yellow crownbeard

3

Vernonia missurica

Missouri ironweed

2

Veronicastrum virginicum

Culver's root

2

Site: District 7

N# 8

Date: 8/30/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL - 37 North of Bonnie.

County: Jefferson

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16S 0333366 - 4230623

GPS Data Ending UTM 16S 0333699 - 4235072

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics

Scientific Name

Common Name

Elaeagnus umbellata

autumn olive

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Prairie Width: 16 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 2.6 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#8

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Ambrosia artemisiifolia

ragweed

3

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

3

Andropogon virginicus

broom sedge

5

Asclepias hirtella

tall green milkweed

1

Baptisia lactea

white wild indigo

2

Cassia fasciculata

partridge pea

1

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

2

Conyza canadensis

horseweed

3

Corylus americana

hazelnut

3

Daucus carota

Queen-Anne's-lace

3

Desmodium cuspidatum

tick trefoil

1

Elaeagnus umbellata

autumn olive

3

Elymus virginicus

wild rye

2

Eragrostis spectabilis

purple love grass

3

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

4

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

3

Fraxinus americana

white ash

2

Gaura biennis

gaura

4

Helianthus grosseserratus

sawtooth sunflower

1

Paspalum floridanum

giant bead grass

1

Prunus serotina

wild black cherry

2

Rhus glabra

smooth sumac

2

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

4

Solidago nemoralis

dyersweed goldenrod

4

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|---|
| <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> | Indian grass | 2 |
| <i>Tridens flavus</i> | purple top | 2 |

Site: District 7

N# 9

Date: 8/30/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL-142 0.6 miles north of the town Belle River

County: Jefferson

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16S 0346364 - 4234040

GPS Data Ending UTM 16S 0343541 - 4236023

Quality Class: 2

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics

Scientific Name

Common Name

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Lonicera japonica

Japanese honeysuckle

Prairie Width: 30 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 4 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 2.2 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: This site has high forb density and diversity.

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#9

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

4

Aster novae-angliae

New England aster

2

Baptisia lactea

white wild indigo

2

Cassia fasciculata

partridge pea

3

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

2

Elaeagnus umbellata

autumn olive

1

Elymus virginicus

wild rye

3

Eupatorium altissimum

tall boneset

3

Euthamia graminifolia

grassleaf goldenrod

2

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

2

Fraxinus americana

white ash

2

Gaura biennis

gaura

3

Helianthus grosseserratus

sawtooth sunflower

2

Helianthus mollis

hairy sunflower

4

Helianthus rigidus

prairie sunflower

3

Lactuca canadensis

Canada lettuce

2

Lespedeza capitata

bush clover

2

Liatris pycnostachya

gayfeather

4

Lonicera japonica

Japanese honeysuckle

3

Prenanthes aspera

rough white lettuce

1

Rudbeckia hirta

black-eyed susan

2

Silphium laciniatum

compass plant

3

Silphium terebinthinaceum

prairie dock

4

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

2

| | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| <i>Solidago nemoralis</i> | dyersweed goldenrod | 2 |
| <i>Solidago rigida</i> | rigid goldenrod | 2 |
| <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> | Indian grass | 2 |
| <i>Tripsacum dactyloides</i> | gamma grass | 1 |
| <i>Vernonia missurica</i> | Missouri ironweed | 3 |

Site: District 7

N# 10

Date: 8/30/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL-142 0.1 miles north of the town Belle River

County: Jefferson

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16S 0347182 - 4233451

GPS Data Ending UTM 16S 0346754 - 4233767

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics

Scientific Name

Common Name

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Lespedeza cuneata

Chinese bush clover

Prairie Width: 30 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 5 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.35 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#10

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

1

Andropogon virginicus

broom sedge

2

Apocynum sibiricum

Indian hemp

1

Diospyros virginiana

persimmon

2

Elymus virginicus

wild rye

2

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

2

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

3

Helianthus mollis

hairy sunflower

2

Lespedeza cuneata

Chinese bush clover

3

Lespedeza virginica

slender bush clover

2

Liatris pycnostachya

gayfeather

4

Rhus copallina

dwarf sumac

2

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

2

Solidago nemoralis

dyersweed goldenrod

4

Site: District 7

N# 11

Date: 8/30/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL-142 from Rocky Branch to the town of Belle River

County: Jefferson

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16S 0349830 - 4231584

GPS Data Ending UTM 16S 0348008 - 4232861

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics

Scientific Name

Common Name

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Prairie Width: 35 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: Illinois
Natural Heritage Landmark & No Mowing

Dist. from Pavement: 6 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 1.7 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#11

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Agrostis alba

red top

2

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

2

Andropogon virginicus

broom sedge

3

Apocynum cannabinum

dogbane

1

Asclepias hirtella

tall green milkweed

2

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

1

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

2

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

4

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

3

Fraxinus americana

white ash

1

Gaura biennis

gaura

2

Helenium autumnale

autumn sneezeweed

1

Liatris pycnostachya

gayfeather

3

Panicum virgatum

prairie switch grass

2

Rhus copallina

dwarf sumac

2

Solidago missouriensis

Missouri goldenrod

2

Solidago nemoralis

dyersweed goldenrod

4

Sorghastrum nutans

Indian grass

2

Vernonia missurica

Missouri ironweed

2

Site: District 7

N# 12

Date: 8/30/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL-142 one-tenth mile north of Dahlgren to Belle River

County: Jefferson & Hamilton

GPS Data: UTM 16S 0351690 - 4229773

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics

Scientific Name

Common Name

Elaeagnus umbellata

autumn olive

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Prairie Width: 32 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 5 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 1.3 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#12

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

2

Asclepias hirtella

tall green milkweed

3

Bidens frondosa

common beggars-ticks

1

Cassia fasciculata

partridge pea

3

Daucus carota

Queen-Anne's-lace

2

Diospyros virginiana

persimmon

2

Elaeagnus umbellata

autumn olive

3

Eupatorium altissimum

tall boneset

2

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

3

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

3

Hieracium longipilium

hairy hawkweed

1

Liatris pycnostachya

gayfeather

3

Paspalum floridanum

giant bead grass

4

Pycnanthemum tenuifolium

slender mountain mint

3

Quercus imbricaria

shingle oak

1

Rudbeckia hirta

black-eyed susan

1

Sassafras albidum

red sassafras

3

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

1

Solidago missouriensis

Missouri goldenrod

2

Solidago nemoralis

dyersweed goldenrod

4

Sorghastrum nutans

Indian grass

2

Tridens flavus

purple top

4

Vernonia missurica

Missouri ironweed

3

Site: District 7

N# 13

Date: 8/30/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL-142 Starting at 400 E to the town of Dahlgren

County: Hamilton

GPS Data: Starting UTM

16S 0357188 - 4225484

GPS Data Ending UTM

16S 0352870 - 4228925

Quality Class: 2

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic/mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics, woody vegetation

Scientific Name

Common Name

Elaeagnus umbellata

autumn olive

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Lonicera japonica

Japanese honeysuckle

Prairie Width: 30 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 4 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 3.4 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: This remnant had high diversity and density of native grasses and forbs.

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#13

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Agrostis alba

red top

3

Ambrosia psilostachya

western ragweed

3

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

2

Andropogon virginicus

broom sedge

3

Apocynum sibiricum

Indian hemp

1

Asclepias hirtella

tall green milkweed

2

Asclepias incarnata

swamp milkweed

2

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

2

Asclepias tuberosa

butterflyweed

2

Aster novae-angliae

New England aster

2

Aster pilosus

hairy aster

1

Boltonia diffusa

false aster

1

Campsis radicans

trumpet creeper

1

Carya tomentosa

mockernut hickory

2

Cassia fasciculata

partridge pea

3

Daucus carota

Queen-Anne's-lace

1

Diospyros virginiana

persimmon

2

Elaeagnus umbellata

autumn olive

2

Elymus virginicus

wild rye

2

Eryngium yuccifolium

rattlesnake master

1

Eupatorium altissimum

tall boneset

2

Eupatorium perfoliatum

boneset

2

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

4

Euthamia graminifolia

grassleaf goldenrod

2

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

3

Fraxinus americana

white ash

2

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| <i>Hieracium longipilium</i> | hairy hawkweed | 2 |
| <i>Liatris pycnostachya</i> | gayfeather | 2 |
| <i>Lonicera japonica</i> | Japanese honeysuckle | 3 |
| <i>Paspalum floridanum</i> | giant bead grass | 3 |
| <i>Pycnanthemum tenuifolium</i> | slender mountain mint | 3 |
| <i>Rhus copallina</i> | dwarf sumac | 4 |
| <i>Rhus glabra</i> | smooth sumac | 2 |
| <i>Sassafras albidum</i> | red sassafras | 3 |

Plant List for Site N#13 cont.

| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|------------|
| <i>Solidago canadensis</i> | Canada goldenrod | 2 |
| <i>Solidago missouriensis</i> | Missouri goldenrod | 3 |
| <i>Solidago nemoralis</i> | dyersweed goldenrod | 4 |
| <i>Solidago rigida</i> | rigid goldenrod | 3 |
| <i>Sporobolus asper</i> | drop seed | 5 |
| <i>Tridens flavus</i> | purple top | 1 |

Site: District 7

N# 14

Date: 8/30/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: The junction of 2000 E. and 500N

County: Hamilton

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16S 0347571 - 4228942

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics, construction

Scientific Name

Common Name

Elaeagnus umbellata

autumn olive

Prairie Width: 35 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 0 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.1 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: This remnant probably has higher diversity than reflected here. However, it was recently scraped and subsequently recolonized by the deeper-rooted, disturbance-tolerant prairie vegetation.

Plant List for Site N#14

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Aristida longespica

three awn

4

Asclepias tuberosa

butterflyweed

1

Asclepias verticillata

whorled milkweed

1

Baptisia lactea

white wild indigo

4

Boltonia diffusa

false aster

1

Cassia fasciculata

partridge pea

5

Desmodium cuspidatum

tick trefoil

2

Desmodium sessilifolium

sessile-leaved tick trefoil

2

Diospyros virginiana

persimmon

2

Elaeagnus umbellata

autumn olive

3

Helianthus mollis

hairy sunflower

3

Lespedeza capitata

bush clover

4

Lespedeza virginica

slender bush clover

2

Liatris pycnostachya

gayfeather

2

Pycnanthemum tenuifolium

slender mountain mint

2

Rudbeckia hirta

black-eyed susan

2

Silphium laciniatum

compass plant

1

Tridens flavus

purple top

2

Vernonia missurica

Missouri ironweed

2

Site: District 7

N# 15

Date: 8/29/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Epworth Road, 0.5 miles east of Carmi to 0.5 miles west of Epworth

County: White

GPS Data: Starting UTM could not get satellite location

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Prairie Width: 18 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 1.4 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#15

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

2

Asclepias incarnata

swamp milkweed

1

Campsis radicans

trumpet creeper

1

Conyza canadensis

horseweed

1

Cornus racemosa

gray dogwood

1

Desmodium sessilifolium

sessile-leaved tick trefoil

1

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

4

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

3

Hypericum perforatum

St. John's-wort

1

Prunus serotina

wild black cherry

1

Sorghastrum nutans

Indian grass

2

Sporobolus asper

drop seed

4

Toxicodendron radicans

poison ivy

1

Tradescantia ohiensis

Ohio spiderwort

3

Vernonia missurica

Missouri ironweed

3

Site: District 7

N# 16

Date: 8/30/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Northwest of the town of Geff, Geff Road to 1375 N.

County: Wayne

GPS Data: Starting UTM

16S 0376908 - 4256506

GPS Data Ending UTM

16S 0376657 - 4257091

Quality Class: 2

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics, construction, woody vegetation

Scientific Name

Common Name

Lonicera japonica

Japanese honeysuckle

Prairie Width: 30 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 0 m

Railroad Activity: Abandoned

Prairie Length: 0.35 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: There are some conservative forbs and the remnant is in good condition despite past disturbances. Some of the remnant has been bulldozed to remove woody vegetation.

Plant List for Site N#16

| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| <i>Andropogon gerardii</i> | big bluestem | 3 |
| <i>Baptisia lactea</i> | white wild indigo | 1 |
| <i>Boltonia diffusa</i> | false aster | 1 |
| <i>Cassia fasciculata</i> | partridge pea | 1 |
| <i>Desmodium sessilifolium</i> | sessile-leaved tick trefoil | 1 |
| <i>Elymus canadensis</i> | Canada wild rye | 3 |
| <i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i> | rattlesnake master | 3 |
| <i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i> | boneset | 1 |
| <i>Euthamia graminifolia</i> | grassleaf goldenrod | 2 |
| <i>Gaura biennis</i> | gaura | 2 |
| <i>Helianthus mollis</i> | hairy sunflower | 4 |
| <i>Lespedeza capitata</i> | bush clover | 1 |
| <i>Liatris pycnostachya</i> | gayfeather | 3 |
| <i>Lonicera japonica</i> | Japanese honeysuckle | 3 |
| <i>Prenanthes aspera</i> | rough white lettuce | 2 |
| <i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i> | mountain mint | 3 |
| <i>Rhus copallina</i> | dwarf sumac | 1 |
| <i>Sassafras albidum</i> | red sassafras | 2 |
| <i>Solidago missouriensis</i> | Missouri goldenrod | 4 |
| <i>Solidago nemoralis</i> | dyersweed goldenrod | 3 |
| <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> | Indian grass | 3 |
| <i>Sporobolus asper</i> | drop seed | 1 |

Site: District 7

N# 17

Date: 8/30/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Edgewood Rd. 1225E.

County: Marion

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16S 0333103 - 4279619

GPS Data Ending UTM 16S 0332388 - 4278723

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics, woody vegetation

Scientific Name

Common Name

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Phragmites australis

common red reed

Prairie Width: 25 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 0 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.8 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#17

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

3

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

2

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

2

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

3

Helianthus grosseserratus

sawtooth sunflower

3

Paspalum floridanum

giant bead grass

2

Phragmites australis

common red reed

4

Salix exigua

sandbar willow

3

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

3

Sorghastrum nutans

Indian grass

2

Vernonia missurica

Missouri ironweed

2

Site: District 7

N# 18

Date: 8/30/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL-37 southwest of the town of Alma

County: Marion

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16S 0332610 - 4286194

GPS Data Ending UTM 16S 0333731 - 4287312

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): mesic/ wet-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics, woody vegetation, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

Phragmites australis

common red reed

Prairie Width: 40 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 5 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 1 mile

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: This remnant was mowed in several areas.

Plant List for Site N#18

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

4

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

2

Euthamia graminifolia

grassleaf goldenrod

1

Fraxinus americana

white ash

1

Gaura biennis

gaura

2

Helianthus mollis

hairy sunflower

3

Lespedeza capitata

bush clover

1

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

3

Phragmites australis

common red reed

5 (local)

Prunus serotina

wild black cherry

1

Rhus glabra

smooth sumac

3

Rubus allegheniensis

common blackberry

2

Sassafras albidum

red sassafras

2

Silphium terebinthinaceum

prairie dock

2

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

5

Spartina pectinata

prairie cord grass

2

Tripsacum dactyloides

gamma grass

2

Ulmus americana

American elm

4

Vernonia missurica

Missouri ironweed

2

Site: District 7

N# 19

Date: 9/18/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL-37 from Alma to Kinmundy to 1950N

County: Marion

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16S 0334689 - 4288282

GPS Data Ending UTM 16S 0338019 - 4291619

Quality Class: 1 - 2

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic to mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics, woody vegetation, construction

Scientific Name

Common Name

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Lonicera maackii

amur honeysuckle

Robinia pseudoacacia

black locust

Prairie Width: 40 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 7 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 3.1 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: This remnant has high forb diversity.

Comments: About 1.1 miles from Alma the prairie improves drastically.

Plant List for Site N#19

| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| <i>Andropogon gerardii</i> | big bluestem | 4 |
| <i>Asclepias hirtella</i> | tall green milkweed | 2 |
| <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> | butterflyweed | 1 |
| <i>Aster ericoides</i> | heath aster | 1 |
| <i>Aster novae-angliae</i> | New England aster | 2 |
| <i>Baptisia lactea</i> | white wild indigo | 3 |
| <i>Baptisia leucophaea</i> | cream wild indigo | 2 |
| <i>Cassia fasciculata</i> | partridge pea | 2 |
| <i>Cornus racemosa</i> | gray dogwood | 2 |
| <i>Corylus americana</i> | hazelnut | 1 |
| <i>Dalea candida</i> | white prairie clover | 2 |
| <i>Dalea purpurea</i> | purple prairie clover | 1 |
| <i>Desmodium sessilifolium</i> | sessile-leaved tick trefoil | 2 |
| <i>Elymus canadensis</i> | Canada wild rye | 3 |
| <i>Elymus virginicus</i> | wild rye | 3 |
| <i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i> | rattlesnake master | 3 |
| <i>Euphorbia corollata</i> | flowering spurge | 2 |
| <i>Euthamia graminifolia</i> | grassleaf goldenrod | 1 |
| <i>Festuca pratensis</i> | meadow fescue | 3 |
| <i>Helianthus grosseserratus</i> | sawtooth sunflower | 2 |
| <i>Lespedeza capitata</i> | bush clover | 1 |
| <i>Liatris aspera</i> | rough blazing star | 3 |
| <i>Liatris pycnostachya</i> | gayfeather | 3 |
| <i>Lithospermum canescens</i> | hoary puccoon | 2 |
| <i>Lonicera maackii</i> | amur honeysuckle | 3 |
| <i>Monarda fistulosa</i> | wild bergamot | 2 |
| <i>Oenothera biennis</i> | evening primrose | 2 |

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| <i>Pycnanthemum tenuifolium</i> | slender mountain mint | 1 |
| <i>Quercus imbricaria</i> | shingle oak | 2 |
| <i>Quercus palustris</i> | pin oak | 2 |
| <i>Quercus velutina</i> | black oak | 2 |
| <i>Ratibida pinnata</i> | drooping coneflower | 2 |
| <i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i> | black locust | 3 |

Plant List for Site N#19 cont.

| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|------------|
| <i>Rosa carolina</i> | pasture rose | 1 |
| <i>Rubus allegheniensis</i> | common blackberry | 1 |
| <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> | black-eyed susan | 1 |
| <i>Sassafras albidum</i> | red sassafras | 3 |
| <i>Silphium integrifolium</i> | rosinweed | 4 |
| <i>Silphium laciniatum</i> | compass plant | 4 |
| <i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i> | prairie dock | 3 |
| <i>Solidago canadensis</i> | Canada goldenrod | 3 |
| <i>Solidago missouriensis</i> | Missouri goldenrod | 3 |
| <i>Solidago nemoralis</i> | dyersweed goldenrod | 4 |
| <i>Solidago rigida</i> | rigid goldenrod | 5 |
| <i>Solidago speciosa</i> | showy goldenrod | 2 |
| <i>Tradescantia ohiensis</i> | Ohio spiderwort | 3 |
| <i>Tradescantia virginiana</i> | Virginia spiderwort | 2 |
| <i>Ulmus americana</i> | American elm | 1 |
| <i>Vernonia missurica</i> | Missouri ironweed | 2 |
| <i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i> | Culver's root | 2 |

Site: District 7 **N#** 20
Date: 9/18/2002 **Evaluator(s):** William C. Handel

Location: IL-37 from Kinmundy to Farina

County: Marion **GPS Data: Starting UTM** 16S 0339788 - 4293385
GPS Data Ending UTM 16S 0354398 - 4299029

Quality Class: 1 - 2 **Natural Community Type(s):** Dry-mesic/ mesic/wet-mesic prairie
(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics, woody vegetation

Scientific Name **Common Name**
Populus alba white poplar

Prairie Width: 40 m **Signs or Evidence of Management:** Yes
(IDOT Scenic Easement)

Dist. from Pavement: 5 m **Railroad Activity:** Active

Prairie Length: 5.1 miles **Prairie present on opposite side of track:** Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: This remnant is composed of several community types and has good diversity and density of native forbs. *Sabatia campestris* (prairie rose gentian) a state endangered species occurs in this remnant. Sections of this remnant are an Illinois Natural Areas Inventory site.

Comments: Some of the species on this list were identified during past fieldwork (Handel 1991).

Plant List for Site N#20

| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| <i>Amorpha canescens</i> | lead plant | 1 |
| <i>Amorpha fruticosa</i> | false indigo bush | 1 |
| <i>Amsonia tabernaemontana</i> | blue star | 1 |
| <i>Andropogon gerardii</i> | big bluestem | 4 |
| <i>Antennaria neglecta</i> | pussytoes | 2 |
| <i>Antennaria plantaginifolia</i> | cat's foot | 2 |
| <i>Apocynum sibiricum</i> | Indian hemp | 2 |
| <i>Asclepias sullivantii</i> | prairie milkweed | 1 |
| <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> | butterflyweed | 2 |
| <i>Aster azureus</i> | sky-blue aster | 1 |
| <i>Aster ericoides</i> | heath aster | 3 |
| <i>Aster novae-angliae</i> | New England aster | 3 |
| <i>Aster pilosus</i> | hairy aster | 1 |
| <i>Baptisia lactea</i> | white wild indigo | 2 |
| <i>Baptisia leucophaea</i> | cream wild indigo | 2 |
| <i>Cacalia atriplicifolia</i> | Indian plantain | 1 |
| <i>Calystegia sepium</i> | american bindweed | 1 |
| <i>Ceanothus americanus</i> | New Jersey tea | 2 |
| <i>Comandra umbellata</i> | bastard toad-flax | 1 |
| <i>Coreopsis palmata</i> | prairie coreopsis | 1 |
| <i>Cornus racemosa</i> | gray dogwood | 3 |
| <i>Corylus americana</i> | hazelnut | 3 |
| <i>Dalea candida</i> | white prairie clover | 1 |
| <i>Dalea purpurea</i> | purple prairie clover | 2 |
| <i>Desmodium canadense</i> | showy tick trefoil | 2 |

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| <i>Desmodium sessilifolium</i> | sessile-leaved tick trefoil | 1 |
| <i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i> | purple love grass | 1 |
| <i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i> | rattlesnake master | 3 |
| <i>Eupatorium altissimum</i> | tall boneset | 3 |
| <i>Euthamia graminifolia</i> | grassleaf goldenrod | 3 |
| <i>Euthamia gymnospermoides</i> | grassleaf goldenrod | 2 |
| <i>Festuca pratensis</i> | meadow fescue | 1 |
| <i>Gaura biennis</i> | gaura | 2 |

Plant List for Site N#20 cont.

| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
|---|-------------------------------|------------|
| <i>Gentiana puberulenta</i> | downy gentian | 2 |
| <i>Helianthus grosseserratus</i> | sawtooth sunflower | 3 |
| <i>Helianthus mollis</i> | downy sunflower | 4 |
| <i>Helianthus rigidus</i> | prairie sunflower | 2 |
| <i>Hypericum sphaerocarpum</i> | round-fruited St. John's wort | 3 |
| <i>Lactuca canadensis</i> | Canada lettuce | 2 |
| <i>Lespedeza capitata</i> | bush clover | 2 |
| <i>Liatris aspera</i> | rough blazing star | 2 |
| <i>Liatris pycnostachya</i> | gayfeather | 3 |
| <i>Lythrum alatum</i> | winged loosestrife | 2 |
| <i>Monarda fistulosa</i> | wild bergamot | 3 |
| <i>Panicum oligosanthos var. scribnerianum</i> | panic grass | 2 |
| <i>Panicum virgatum</i> | prairie switch grass | 3 |
| <i>Phlox pilosa</i> | downy phlox | 2 |
| <i>Physostegia virginiana</i> | false dragonhead | 2 |
| <i>Polygala verticillata</i> | whorled milkwort | 2 |
| <i>Polytaenia nuttallii</i> | prairie parsley | 1 |
| <i>Populus alba</i> | white poplar | 3 |
| <i>Porteranthus stipulatus</i> | Indian physic | 1 |
| <i>Prenanthes aspera</i> | rough white lettuce | 3 |
| <i>Pycnanthemum tenuifolium</i> | slender mountain mint | 2 |
| <i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i> | mountain mint | 3 |
| <i>Quercus palustris</i> | pin oak | 1 |
| <i>Rosa carolina</i> | pasture rose | 1 |
| <i>Ruellia humilis</i> | hairy ruellia | 2 |
| <i>Sabatia campestris</i> (Illinois Endangered) | prairie rose gentian | 2 |
| <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> | Indian grass | 4 |
| <i>Spartina pectinata</i> | prairie cord grass | 3 |
| <i>Sporobolus asper</i> | drop seed | 2 |
| <i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i> | northern drop seed | 1 |
| <i>Stylosanthes biflora</i> | pencil-flower | 1 |
| <i>Tephrosia virginiana</i> | goat's rue | 1 |
| <i>Teucrium canadense</i> | American germander | 2 |
| <i>Tradescantia ohiensis</i> | Ohio spiderwort | 2 |
| <i>Tradescantia virginiana</i> | Virginia spiderwort | 1 |
| <i>Typha latifolia</i> | cattail | 2 |

Site: District 7

N# 21

Date: 9/17/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Frieda Road, in the town of Farina

County: Marion

GPS Data: UTM 16S 0345693 - 4299181

Quality Class: 2

Natural Community Type(s): Mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Mowing

Prairie Width: 30 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: Yes
(Burned by local citizens)

Dist. from Pavement: 1 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.1 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: This remnant has good diversity and density of native forbs.

Comments The town of Farina recently mowed half the remnant. Some of the species on this list were identified during past fieldwork (Handel 1991).

Plant List for Site N#21

| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| <i>Andropogon gerardii</i> | big bluestem | 4 |
| <i>Apocynum sibiricum</i> | Indian hemp | 2 |
| <i>Asclepias syriaca</i> | common milkweed | 2 |
| <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> | butterflyweed | 1 |
| <i>Aster ericoides</i> | heath aster | 2 |
| <i>Aster novae-angliae</i> | New England aster | 2 |
| <i>Baptisia lactea</i> | white wild indigo | 3 |
| <i>Cirsium discolor</i> | field thistle | 1 |
| <i>Elymus canadensis</i> | Canada wild rye | 2 |
| <i>Elymus virginicus</i> | wild rye | 1 |
| <i>Eupatorium altissimum</i> | tall boneset | 1 |
| <i>Helianthus grosseserratus</i> | sawtooth sunflower | 2 |
| <i>Helianthus mollis</i> | hairy sunflower | 3 |
| <i>Liatris pycnostachya</i> | gayfeather | 4 |
| <i>Lithospermum canescens</i> | hoary puccoon | 1 |
| <i>Panicum virgatum</i> | prairie switch grass | 2 |
| <i>Phlox pilosa</i> | downy phlox | 2 |
| <i>Prenanthes racemosa</i> | glaucous white lettuce | 2 |
| <i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i> | mountain mint | 2 |
| <i>Rubus allegheniensis</i> | common blackberry | 2 |
| <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> | black-eyed susan | 1 |
| <i>Silphium integrifolium</i> | rosinweed | 2 |
| <i>Silphium laciniatum</i> | compass plant | 2 |
| <i>Solidago canadensis</i> | Canada goldenrod | 3 |
| <i>Solidago rigida</i> | rigid goldenrod | 2 |
| <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> | Indian grass | 3 |
| <i>Spartina pectinata</i> | prairie cord grass | 2 |
| <i>Vernonia missurica</i> | Missouri ironweed | 3 |
| <i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i> | Culver's root | 2 |

Site: District 7

N# 22

Date: 9/17/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL-37 Farina to Le Clede

County: Effingham

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16S 0346912 - 4300510

GPS Data Ending UTM 16S 0351653 - 4305247

Quality Class: 2 - 3

Natural Community Type(s): Mesic/wet-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics, construction, cultivation

Scientific Name

Common Name

Elaeagnus umbellata

autumn olive

Robinia pseudoacacia

black locust

Gleditsia triacanthos

honey locust (thornless cultivar)

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Prairie Width: 35 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 4 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 4 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: There are some conservative species and good density of prairie forbs.

Comments: Portions of this remnant have good diversity and density of native forbs; however part of the remnant has been used as a tree nursery. One section was cultivated around 1986 it has since be recolonized by prairie grasses and forbs. Some of the species on this list were identified during past fieldwork (Handel 1991).

Plant List for Site N#22

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

4

Apocynum cannabinum

dogbane

2

Asclepias incarnata

swamp milkweed

3

Asclepias sullivantii

prairie milkweed

1

Aster novae-angliae

New England aster

3

Aster pilosus

hairy aster

1

Aster praealtus

willow-leaved aster

3

Baptisia lactea

white wild indigo

2

Boltonia diffusa

false aster

1

Cassia fasciculata

partridge pea

1

Cephalanthus occidentalis

buttonbush

1

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

2

Cornus racemosa

gray dogwood

2

Dalea purpurea

purple prairie clover

1

Elaeagnus umbellata

autumn olive

3

Elymus canadensis

Canada wild rye

3

Eryngium yuccifolium

rattlesnake master

3

Eupatorium altissimum

tall boneset

3

Eupatorium perfoliatum

boneset

2

Euthamia graminifolia

grassleaf goldenrod

4

Euthamia gymnospermoides

grassleaf goldenrod

2

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| <i>Festuca pratensis</i> | meadow fescue | 3 |
| <i>Gaura biennis</i> | gaura | 2 |
| <i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> | honey locust (thornless cultivar) | 3 |
| <i>Helenium autumnale</i> | autumn sneezeweed | 2 |
| <i>Helianthus grosseserratus</i> | sawtooth sunflower | 3 |
| <i>Helianthus mollis</i> | hairy sunflower | 4 |
| <i>Hypericum sphaerocarpum</i> | round-fruited St. John's-wort | 2 |
| <i>Iris shrevei</i> | southern blue flag | 1 |

Plant List for Site N#22 cont.

| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| <i>Lespedeza capitata</i> | bush clover | 2 |
| <i>Lithospermum canescens</i> | hoary puccoon | 1 |
| <i>Monarda fistulosa</i> | wild bergamot | 3 |
| <i>Muhlenbergia mexicana</i> | leafy satin grass | 3 |
| <i>Panicum virgatum</i> | prairie switch grass | 3 |
| <i>Perideridia americana</i> | prairie parsley | 1 |
| <i>Prenanthes racemosa</i> | glaucous white lettuce | 1 |
| <i>Pycnanthemum tenuifolium</i> | slender mountain mint | 1 |
| <i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i> | mountain mint | 3 |
| <i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i> | black locust | 3 |
| <i>Rosa carolina</i> | pasture rose | 2 |
| <i>Silphium integrifolium</i> | rosinweed | 2 |
| <i>Silphium laciniatum</i> | compass plant | 4 |
| <i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i> | prairie dock | 3 |
| <i>Solidago canadensis</i> | Canada goldenrod | 4 |
| <i>Solidago nemoralis</i> | dyersweed goldenrod | 3 |
| <i>Solidago rigida</i> | rigid goldenrod | 4 |
| <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> | Indian grass | 4 |
| <i>Spartina pectinata</i> | prairie cord grass | 3 |
| <i>Verbena hastata</i> | blue vervain | 1 |
| <i>Vernonia missurica</i> | Missouri ironweed | 2 |

Site: District 7

N# 23

Date: 9/17/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL-37 Le Clede to Edgewood

County: Fayette & Clay

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16S 0351653 - 4305247

GPS Data Ending UTM 16S 0355314 - 4308949

Quality Class: 1-2 **Natural Community Type(s):** Dry-mesic savanna/ dry-mesic prairie
(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics, construction, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Robinia pseudoacacia

black locust

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Coronilla varia

crown vetch

Prairie Width:

30-40 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement:

2 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length:

3.2 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: There are conservative species and good density of species in the savanna remnant. *Liatris scariosa* var. *nieuwlandii* (savanna blazing star) and state threatened species occurs at this site. The Dry-mesic prairie is near the town of Edgewood. It is lower quality and is mowed frequently.

Comments: The dry-mesic savanna is called the Dismal Creek Savanna and is an Illinois Natural Areas Inventory site. Some of the species on this list were identified during past fieldwork (Handel 1991).

Plant List for Site N#23

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Agalinis tenuifolia

slender foxglove

2

Agrimonia parviflora

swamp agrimony

2

Agrostis alba

red top

2

Agrostis hyemalis

tickle grass

2

Agrostis scabra

rough bent grass

2

Allium canadense

wild garlic

2

Amorpha canescens

lead plant

2

Amphicarpa bracteata

hog peanut

3

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

4

Anemone virginiana

tall anemone

2

Antennaria plantaginifolia

cat's foot

3

Apocynum cannabinum

Indian-hemp

2

Apocynum sibiricum

Indian-hemp

2

Aristida longespica

three awn

2

Asclepias hirtella

tall green milkweed

1

Asclepias purpurascens

purple milkweed

1

Asclepias sullivantii

prairie milkweed

2

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

3

Asclepias tuberosa

butterfly weed

2

Asclepias verticillata

whorled milkweed

2

Asclepias viridiflora

green milkweed

1

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| <i>Asplenium platyneuron</i> | ebony spleenwort | 1 |
| <i>Aster ericoides</i> | heath aster | 3 |
| <i>Aster novae-angliae</i> | New England aster | 2 |
| <i>Aster oolentangiensis</i> | sky-blue aster | 3 |
| <i>Aster patens</i> | spreading aster | 3 |
| <i>Aster pilosus</i> | hairy aster | 2 |
| <i>Aster turbinellus</i> | aster | 3 |
| <i>Astragalus canadensis</i> | Canada milk vetch | 1 |
| Plant List for Site N#23 | | |
| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
| <i>Aureolaria flava</i> | smooth false foxglove | 2 |
| <i>Baptisia lactea</i> | wild indigo | 3 |
| <i>Baptisia leucophaea</i> | cream wild indigo | 3 |
| <i>Botrychium virginianum</i> | rattlesnake fern | 2 |
| <i>Brachyelytrum erectum</i> | long-awned wood grass | 2 |
| <i>Bromus pubescens</i> | Canada brome grass | 3 |
| <i>Bromus purgans</i> | woodland brome | 2 |
| <i>Cacalia atriplicifolia</i> | pale Indian plantain | 3 |
| <i>Calystegia sepium</i> | American bindweed | 2 |
| <i>Campanula americana</i> | American bellflower | 3 |
| <i>Campsis radicans</i> | trumpet creeper | 2 |
| <i>Carex bicknellii</i> | sedge | 3 |
| <i>Carex blanda</i> | sedge | 2 |
| <i>Carex bushii</i> | sedge | 3 |
| <i>Carex glaucoidea</i> | sedge | 2 |
| <i>Carex grisea</i> | sedge | 2 |
| <i>Carex hirsutella</i> | sedge | 2 |
| <i>Carex meadii</i> | sedge | 3 |
| <i>Carex pennsylvanica</i> | penn sedge | 2 |
| <i>Carex umbellata</i> | sedge | 2 |
| <i>Carya ovata</i> | shagbark hickory | 2 |
| <i>Carya tomentosa</i> | mockernut hickory | 3 |
| <i>Cassia fasciculata</i> | partridge-pea | 3 |
| <i>Cassia marilandica</i> | Maryland senna | 1 |
| <i>Ceanothus americanus</i> | New Jersey tea | 4 |
| <i>Cercis canadensis</i> | red bud | 2 |
| <i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i> | sea oats | 2 |
| <i>Cinna arundinacea</i> | stout wood reed | 3 |
| <i>Cirsium altissimum</i> | tall thistle | 3 |
| <i>Cirsium discolor</i> | field thistle | 2 |
| <i>Comandra umbellata</i> | bastard toad-flax | 3 |
| <i>Coreopsis palmata</i> | prairie coreopsis | 3 |
| <i>Coreopsis tripteris</i> | tickseed | 3 |
| <i>Cornus racemosa</i> | gray dogwood | 4 |
| <i>Coronilla varia</i> | crown vetch | 3 |
| <i>Crotalaria sagittalis</i> | rattlebox | 3 |
| <i>Corylus americana</i> | American hazelnut | 3 |
| <i>Danthonia spicata</i> | curly grass | 3 |
| <i>Daucus carota</i> | Queen-Anne's-lace | 2 |
| <i>Desmodium canadense</i> | showy tick trefoil | 2 |
| <i>Desmodium ciliare</i> | hairy tick trefoil | 2 |
| <i>Desmodium cuspidatum</i> | tick trefoil | 3 |
| <i>Desmodium marilandicum</i> | round-leaved tick trefoil | 2 |
| <i>Desmodium paniculatum</i> | panicled tick trefoil | 2 |
| <i>Desmodium sessilifolium</i> | sessile-leaved tick trefoil | 3 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|---|
| <i>Dioscorea quaternata</i> | wild yam | 2 |
| <i>Diospyros virginiana</i> | persimmon | 3 |
| <i>Dodecatheon meadia</i> | shooting star | 2 |
| <i>Echinacea purpurea</i> | purple coneflower | 3 |
| <i>Elymus canadensis</i> | nodding wild rye | 2 |
| <i>Elymus hystrix</i> | bottlebrush grass | 3 |
| <i>Elymus villosus</i> | hairy wild rye | 2 |
| <i>Elymus virginicus</i> | Virginia wild rye | 3 |
| <i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i> | tumble-grass | 2 |
| <i>Erigeron pulchellus</i> | robin's plantain | 2 |
| <i>Eupatorium altissimum</i> | tall boneset | 4 |
| <i>Eupatorium purpureum</i> | Joe-pye weed | 3 |
| <i>Euphorbia corollata</i> | flowering spurge | 3 |
| <i>Festuca pratensis</i> | tall fescue | 2 |
| <i>Fragaria virginiana</i> | wild strawberry | 2 |
| <i>Frasera caroliniensis</i> | American columbo | 3 |

Plant List for Site N#23

| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
|--|-------------------------------|-----|
| <i>Fraxinus americana</i> | white ash | 2 |
| <i>Galium circaezans</i> | bedstraw | 1 |
| <i>Galium triflorum</i> | sweet-scented bedstraw | 2 |
| <i>Gaura biennis</i> | gaura | 2 |
| <i>Gentiana alba</i> | pale gentian | 2 |
| <i>Geranium maculatum</i> | wild geranium | 2 |
| <i>Hedyotis nuttalliana</i> | slender-leaved bluets | 2 |
| <i>Helianthemum bicknellii</i> | frostweed | 2 |
| <i>Helianthus divaricatus</i> | woodland sunflower | 3 |
| <i>Helianthus mollis</i> | downy sunflower | 2 |
| <i>Helianthus strumosus</i> | woodland sunflower | 2 |
| <i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i> | false sunflower | 3 |
| <i>Heuchera richardsonii</i> | prairie alumroot | 3 |
| <i>Hieracium longipilum</i> | hairy hawkweed | 2 |
| <i>Hieracium scabrum</i> | hairy hawkweed | 1 |
| <i>Hypericum sphaerocarpum</i> | round-fruited St. John's wort | 2 |
| <i>Impatiens capensis</i> | jewelweed | 2 |
| <i>Ipomoea pandurata</i> | wild sweet potato wine | 2 |
| <i>Krigia biflora</i> | false dandelion | 2 |
| <i>Lactuca canadensis</i> | wild lettuce | 1 |
| <i>Lactuca floridana</i> | wild lettuce | 3 |
| <i>Lechea tenuifolia</i> | narrow-leaved pinweed | 2 |
| <i>Leersia virginica</i> | cut grass | 2 |
| <i>Lespedeza capitata</i> | round-headed bush | 3 |
| <i>Lespedeza intermedia</i> | bush clover | 1 |
| <i>Lespedeza stuevei</i> | bush clover | 2 |
| <i>Lespedeza violacea</i> | bush clover | 2 |
| <i>Lespedeza virginica</i> | slender bush | 3 |
| <i>Liatris aspera</i> | rough blazing star | 3 |
| <i>Liatris pycnostachya</i> | blazing star | 3 |
| <i>Liatris scabra</i> | blazing star | 3 |
| <i>Liatris scariosa</i> var. <i>nieuwlandii</i> (State Threatened) | savanna blazing star | 2 |
| <i>Linum medium</i> | yellow flax | 1 |
| <i>Linum sulcatum</i> | yellow flax | 1 |
| <i>Liparis liliifolia</i> | large twayblade orchid | 1 |
| <i>Lithospermum canescens</i> | hoary puccoon | 3 |

| | | |
|---|---------------------------|---|
| <i>Lobelia siphilitica</i> | great lobelia | 2 |
| <i>Ludwigia alternifolia</i> | seed box | 2 |
| <i>Lysimachia quadriflora</i> | narrow-leaved loosestrife | 2 |
| <i>Melica nitens</i> | two-flowered melic grass | 2 |
| <i>Melilotus alba</i> | white sweet clover | 2 |
| <i>Monarda bradburiana</i> | bee balm | 3 |
| <i>Monarda fistulosa</i> | wild bergamot | 2 |
| <i>Morus rubra</i> | red mulberry | 1 |
| <i>Muhlenbergia sobolifera</i> | muhly grass | 2 |
| <i>Oneothesa biennis</i> | evening primrose | 2 |
| <i>Orobanche uniflora</i> | cancer-root | 1 |
| <i>Oxalis stricta</i> | yellow wood sorrel | 2 |
| <i>Oxalis violacea</i> | purple oxalis | 2 |
| <i>Panicum acuminatum</i> var. <i>fasciculatum</i> | panic grass | 2 |
| <i>Panicum clandestinum</i> | broad-leaved panic | 2 |
| <i>Panicum oligosanthos</i> var. <i>scribnerianum</i> | panic grass | 2 |
| <i>Parthenium integrifolium</i> | American feverfew | 4 |
| <i>Penstemon digitalis</i> | foxglove beardtongue | 3 |
| <i>Penstemon hirsutus</i> | hairy beard-tongue | 2 |
| <i>Phlox divaricata</i> | blue phlox | 2 |
| <i>Phlox pilosa</i> | downy phlox | 3 |
| <i>Poa compressa</i> | Canadian bluegrass | 2 |
| <i>Podophyllum peltatum</i> | mayapple | 2 |
| <i>Polygala sanguinea</i> | field milkwort | 2 |

Plant List for Site N#23

| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
|---|-----------------------|-----|
| <i>Polygala verticillata</i> | whorled milkwort | 2 |
| <i>Polygonatum commutatum</i> | Solomon's seal | 2 |
| <i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i> | Christmas fern | 1 |
| <i>Porteranthus stipulatus</i> | Indian physic | 3 |
| <i>Potentilla simplex</i> | common cinquefoil | 3 |
| <i>Prunus americana</i> | wild plum | 1 |
| <i>Prunus serotina</i> | black cherry | 2 |
| <i>Psoralea psoraliioides</i> var. <i>eglandulosa</i> | Sampson's snakeroot | 3 |
| <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> | bracken fern | 2 |
| <i>Pycnanthemum pilosum</i> | hairy mountain mint | 3 |
| <i>Pycnanthemum tenuifolium</i> | slender mountain mint | 2 |
| <i>Quercus marilandica</i> | blackjack oak | 2 |
| <i>Quercus alba</i> | white oak | 2 |
| <i>Quercus imbricaria</i> | shingle oak | 2 |
| <i>Quercus macrocarpa</i> | bur oak | 1 |
| <i>Quercus stellata</i> | post oak | 4 |
| <i>Quercus velutina</i> | black oak | 4 |
| <i>Ratibida pinnata</i> | yellow coneflower | 3 |
| <i>Rhus aromatica</i> | aromatic sumac | 2 |
| <i>Rhus copallina</i> | dwarf sumac | 2 |
| <i>Rhus glabra</i> | smooth sumac | 3 |
| <i>Rosa blanda</i> | meadow rose | 2 |
| <i>Rosa carolina</i> | meadow rose | 2 |
| <i>Rubus allegheniensis</i> | wild blackberry | 3 |
| <i>Rubus occidentalis</i> | black raspberry | 2 |
| <i>Ruellia humilis</i> | hairy petunia | 3 |
| <i>Sabatia angularis</i> | marsh pink | 1 |
| <i>Salix humilis</i> | prairie willow | 4 |
| <i>Sambucus canadensis</i> | elderberry | 2 |

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| <i>Sassafras albidum</i> | Sassafras | 3 |
| <i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> | little bluestem | 3 |
| <i>Scirpus pendulus</i> | red bulrush | 2 |
| <i>Scutellaria incana</i> | downy skullcap | 3 |
| <i>Scutellaria ovata</i> | heart-leaved skullcap | 2 |
| <i>Silene stellata</i> | starry campion | 3 |
| <i>Silphium integrifolium</i> | rosin-weed | 2 |
| <i>Silphium laciniatum</i> | compass plant | 2 |
| <i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i> | prairie dock | 2 |
| <i>Sisyrinchium albidum</i> | blue-eyed grass | 3 |
| <i>Smilacina racemosa</i> | false solomon seal | 3 |
| <i>Solidago canadensis</i> | tall goldenrod | 3 |
| <i>Solidago gigantea</i> | late goldenrod | 2 |
| <i>Solidago missouriensis</i> | Missouri goldenrod | 2 |
| <i>Solidago nemoralis</i> | dyersweed | 3 |
| <i>Solidago rigida</i> | stiff goldenrod | 3 |
| <i>Solidago speciosa</i> | showy goldenrod | 3 |
| <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> | Indian Grass | 4 |
| <i>Sphenopholis obtusata</i> | prairie wedge grass | 2 |
| <i>Spiranthes cernua</i> | ladies' tresses | 2 |
| <i>Spiranthes tuberosa</i> | little ladies' tresses | 1 |
| <i>Sporobolus asper</i> | tall dropseed | 2 |
| <i>Staphylea trifolia</i> | bladdernut | 1 |
| <i>Strophostyles helvola</i> | wild bean | 1 |
| <i>Symphoricarpos orbiculatus</i> | buckbrush | 3 |
| <i>Tephrosia virginiana</i> | goat's-rue | 3 |
| <i>Teucrium canadense</i> | American germander | 3 |
| <i>Thalictrum revolutum</i> | waxy meadow rue | 2 |
| <i>Thaspium trifoliatum</i> | meadow parsnip | 3 |
| <i>Toxicodendron radicans</i> | poison ivy | 1 |
| <i>Tradescantia virginiana</i> | spiderwort | 2 |
| <i>Tridens flavus</i> | purple top | 1 |
| Plant List for Site N#23 | | |
| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
| <i>Trillium recurvatum</i> | red trillium | 2 |
| <i>Triosteum aurantiacum</i> | early horse gentian | 1 |
| <i>Triosteum perfoliatum</i> | late horse gentian | 1 |
| <i>Ulmus americana</i> | American elm | 2 |
| <i>Verbesina alternifolia</i> | yellow crownbeard | 2 |
| <i>Verbesina helianthoides</i> | yellow crownbeard | 4 |
| <i>Vernonia missurica</i> | Missouri ironweed | 2 |
| <i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i> | Culver's root | 3 |
| <i>Zizia aurea</i> | golden alexanders | 3 |

Site: District 7

N# 24

Date: 9/19/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL-37 Edgewood to Mason

County: Effingham

GPS Data: Starting UTM

16S 0356302 - 4309918

GPS Data Ending UTM

16S 0358376 - 4312038

Quality Class: 1

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic to mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, woody invasion, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Phragmites australis

common red reed

Prairie Width: 35 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: yes

Dist. from Pavement: 2 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 2 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: There are high density of conservative species in this remnant. *Sabatia campestris* (prairie rose gentian) a state endangered species occurs in this remnant. Sections of this remnant are an Illinois Natural Areas Inventory site.

Comments: Some of the species on this list were identified during past fieldwork (Handel 1991).

Plant List for Site N#24

| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----|
| <i>Amorpha canescens</i> | lead plant | 1 |
| <i>Andropogon gerardii</i> | big bluestem | 4 |
| <i>Antennaria plantaginifolia</i> | cat's foot | 2 |
| <i>Apocynum sibiricum</i> | Indian-hemp | 1 |
| <i>Asclepias hirtella</i> | tall green milkweed | 1 |
| <i>Asclepias syriaca</i> | common milkweed | 2 |
| <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> | butterfly weed | 2 |
| <i>Aster ericoides</i> | heath aster | 3 |
| <i>Aster novae-angliae</i> | New England aster | 3 |
| <i>Aster oolentangiensis</i> | sky-blue aster | 1 |
| <i>Aster pilosus</i> | hairy aster | 2 |
| <i>Aster praealtus</i> willow aster | 2 | |
| <i>Baptisia lactea</i> | wild indigo | 3 |
| <i>Baptisia leucophaea</i> | cream wild indigo | 2 |
| <i>Boltonia diffusa</i> false aster | 1 | |
| <i>Ceanothus americanus</i> | New Jersey tea | 2 |
| <i>Cirsium discolor</i> | field thistle | 1 |
| <i>Coreopsis tripteris</i> | tickseed | 1 |
| <i>Cornus racemosa</i> | gray dogwood | 3 |
| <i>Corylus americana</i> | American hazelnut | 3 |
| <i>Dalea purpurea</i> | purple prairie clover | 1 |
| <i>Desmodium canadense</i> | showy tick trefoil | 2 |
| <i>Desmodium sessilifolium</i> | sessile-leaved tick trefoil | 1 |
| <i>Diospyros virginiana</i> | persimmon | 2 |
| <i>Elymus canadensis</i> | nodding wild rye | 2 |

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|---|
| <i>Eupatorium altissimum</i> | tall boneset | 2 |
| <i>Euthamia graminifolia</i> | grass-leaved | 3 |
| <i>Gaura longiflora</i> | gaura | 2 |
| <i>Gentiana puberulenta</i> | downy gentian | 3 |
| <i>Helianthus grosseserratus</i> | sawtooth | 3 |
| <i>Helianthus mollis</i> | downy sunflower | 4 |
| <i>Helianthus rigidus</i> | prairie sunflower | 2 |
| <i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i> | false sunflower | 2 |
| <i>Hieracium longipilum</i> | hairy hawkweed | 1 |

Plant List for Site N#24

| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
|--|----------------------|-----|
| <i>Krigia biflora</i> | false dandelion | 1 |
| <i>Lactuca canadensis</i> | wild lettuce | 2 |
| <i>Lespedeza capitata</i> | round-headed bush | 1 |
| <i>Liatris aspera</i> | rough blazing star | 2 |
| <i>Liatris pycnostachya</i> | blazing star | 2 |
| <i>Lithospermum canescens</i> | hoary puccoon | 1 |
| <i>Monarda fistulosa</i> | wild bergamot | 3 |
| <i>Panicum virgatum</i> | switch grass | 2 |
| <i>Parthenium integrifolium</i> | American feverfew | 1 |
| <i>Phlox pilosa</i> | downy phlox | 2 |
| <i>Phragmites australis</i> | common reed | 3 |
| <i>Prenanthes aspera</i> | rough white | 2 |
| <i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i> | mountain mint | 1 |
| <i>Ratibida pinnata</i> | yellow coneflower | 1 |
| <i>Rhus glabra</i> | smooth sumac | 2 |
| <i>Rosa carolina</i> | prairie rose | 2 |
| <i>Rubus allegheniensis</i> | wild blackberry | 2 |
| <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> black-eyed Susan | 2 | |
| <i>Ruellia humilis</i> | hairy petunia | 1 |
| <i>Sabatia campestris</i> (state endangered) | prairie rose gentian | 3 |
| <i>Sassafras albidum</i> | sassafras | 2 |
| <i>Silphium laciniatum</i> | compass plant | 3 |
| <i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i> | prairie dock | 2 |
| <i>Solidago canadensis</i> | tall goldenrod | 2 |
| <i>Solidago juncea</i> early goldenrod | 1 | |
| <i>Solidago missouriensis</i> | Missouri goldenrod | 2 |
| <i>Solidago nemoralis</i> | dyersweed | 1 |
| <i>Solidago rigida</i> | stiff goldenrod | 2 |
| <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> | Indian grass | 4 |
| <i>Spartina pectinata</i> | cord grass | 2 |
| <i>Sporobolus asper</i> | tall dropseed | 1 |
| <i>Thaspium trifoliatum</i> | meadow parsnip | 1 |
| <i>Tripsacum dactyloides</i> | gamma grass | 2 |
| <i>Vernonia missurica</i> | Missouri ironweed | 2 |
| <i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i> | Culver's root | 1 |
| <i>Viola sagittata</i> | arrow-leaved violet | 1 |
| <i>Zizia aurea</i> | golden alexanders | 2 |

Site: District 7

N# 25

Date: 9/17/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL-37 Mason to the Little Wabash River

County: Effingham

GPS Data: Starting UTM

16S 0359642 - 4313245

GPS Data Ending UTM

16S 0362195 - 4316215

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics, woody invasion, construction

Scientific Name

Common Name

Coronilla varia

crown vetch

Elaeagnus umbellata

autumn olive

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Lonicera japonica

Japanese honeysuckle

Morus alba

white mulberry

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

Prairie Width: 40 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: no

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 2.4 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: This remnant has degraded over last ten years. Encroachment from wood species and construction has degraded a large portions of this remnant. Some of the species on this list were identified during past fieldwork (Handel 1991).

Plant List for Site N#25

| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----|
| <i>Andropogon gerardii</i> | big bluestem | 4 |
| <i>Apocynum sibiricum</i> | Indian-hemp | 1 |
| <i>Asclepias hirtella</i> | tall green milkweed | 1 |
| <i>Asclepias syriaca</i> | common milkweed | 2 |
| <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> | butterfly weed | 2 |
| <i>Aster ericoides</i> | heath aster | 3 |
| <i>Aster novae-angliae</i> | New England aster | 3 |
| <i>Aster pilosus</i> | hairy aster | 2 |
| <i>Aster praealtus</i> | willow aster | 2 |
| <i>Baptisia lactea</i> | wild indigo | 3 |
| <i>Cirsium discolor</i> | field thistle | 1 |
| <i>Cornus racemosa</i> | gray dogwood | 3 |
| <i>Coronilla varia</i> | crown vetch | 3 |
| <i>Corylus americana</i> | American hazelnut | 3 |
| <i>Dalea purpurea</i> | purple prairie clover | 1 |
| <i>Diospyros virginiana</i> | persimmon | 2 |
| <i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i> | autumn olive | 3 |
| <i>Elymus canadensis</i> | nodding wild rye | 2 |
| <i>Eupatorium altissimum</i> | tall boneset | 2 |
| <i>Euthamia graminifolia</i> | grass-leaved | 3 |
| <i>Festuca pratensis</i> | meadow fescue | 3 |

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|---|
| <i>Festuca pratensis</i> | meadow fescue | 4 |
| <i>Helianthus grosseserratus</i> | sawtooth | 3 |
| <i>Helianthus mollis</i> | hairy sunflower | 4 |
| <i>Helianthus rigidus</i> | prairie sunflower | 2 |
| <i>Lactuca canadensis</i> | wild lettuce | 2 |
| <i>Lespedeza capitata</i> | round-headed bush | 1 |
| <i>Liatris pycnostachya</i> | gayfeather | 2 |
| <i>Lilium michiganense</i> | Michigan lily | 1 |

Plant List for Site N#25

| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
|---|----------------------|------------|
| <i>Lonicera japonica</i> | Japanese honeysuckle | 2 |
| <i>Monarda fistulosa</i> | wild bergamot | 3 |
| <i>Morus alba</i> | white mulberry | 3 |
| <i>Panicum virgatum</i> | switch grass | 2 |
| <i>Parthenium integrifolium</i> | American feverfew | 1 |
| <i>Phalaris arundinacea</i> | reed canary grass | 3 |
| <i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i> | mountain mint | 1 |
| <i>Ratibida pinnata</i> | yellow coneflower | 1 |
| <i>Rhus glabra</i> | smooth sumac | 2 |
| <i>Rhus typhina</i> | staghorn sumac | 3 |
| <i>Rosa carolina</i> | prairie rose | 2 |
| <i>Rubus allegheniensis</i> | wild blackberry | 2 |
| <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> black-eyed Susan | 2 | |
| <i>Ruellia humilis</i> | hairy petunia | 1 |
| <i>Sabatia campestris</i> | prairie rose gentian | 3 |
| <i>Sassafras albidum</i> | sassafras | 2 |
| <i>Silphium laciniatum</i> | compass plant | 3 |
| <i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i> | prairie dock | 2 |
| <i>Solidago canadensis</i> | Canada goldenrod | 3 |
| <i>Solidago missouriensis</i> | Missouri goldenrod | 2 |
| <i>Solidago nemoralis</i> | dyersweed | 1 |
| <i>Solidago rigida</i> | rigid goldenrod | 3 |
| <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> | Indian grass | 4 |
| <i>Spartina pectinata</i> | prairie cord grass | 3 |
| <i>Sporobolus asper</i> | tall dropseed | 1 |
| <i>Tripsacum dactyloides</i> | gamma grass | 2 |
| <i>Vernonia missurica</i> | Missouri ironweed | 2 |
| <i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i> | Culver's root | 1 |
| <i>Zizia aurea</i> | golden alexanders | 2 |

Site: District 7

N# 26

Date: 9/16/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL-57 median 1 mile south of the Mason exit.

County: Effingham

GPS Data: Starting UTM

16S 0359642 - 4313245

GPS Data Ending UTM

16S 0362195 - 4316215

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics, tree planting

Scientific Name

Common Name

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Lonicera japonica

Japanese honeysuckle

Prairie Width: 100 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: yes
(prairie plants do not mow)

Dist. from Pavement: 5 m

Railroad Activity: NA

Prairie Length: 1 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: NA

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: This remnant is located in an area where the median widens. It appears that part of the site may have been planted with prairie; however there are native plants that usually are not found in roadside seed mixes. There was an attempt to plant trees in the remnant. These appear to be a mix of conifers but the survival was low.

Plant List for Site N#26

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Aristida longespica

three awn

3

Asclepias hirtella

tall green milkweed

2

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

1

Baptisia lactea

white wild indigo

4

Bidens frondosa

common beggars-ticks

3

Cassia fasciculata

partridge pea

4

Diospyros virginiana

persimmon

1

Eragrostis spectabilis

purple love grass

2

Eryngium yuccifolium

rattlesnake master

2

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

2

Euthamia graminifolia

grassleaf goldenrod

2

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

3

Gnaphalium obtusifolium

catfoot

2

Liatris pycnostachya

gayfeather

2

Lonicera japonica

Japanese honeysuckle

3

Panicum virgatum

prairie switch grass

3

Rubus allegheniensis

common blackberry

3

Sassafras albidum

red sassafras

2

Schizachyrium scoparium

little bluestem

2

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

3

Solidago missouriensis

Missouri goldenrod

1

Solidago nemoralis

dyersweed goldenrod

3

Sorghastrum nutans

Indian grass

5

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|---|
| <i>Tridens flavus</i> | purple top | 3 |
| <i>Verbena hastata</i> | blue vervain | 2 |
| <i>Vernonia missurica</i> | Missouri ironweed | 3 |

Site: District 7

N# 27

Date: 9/16/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL-33 Lis 0.1 tenth of miles from 600 E to 560 E

County: Jasper

GPS Data: Starting UTM

16S 0390730 - 4319850

GPS Data Ending UTM

16S 0390065 - 4320295

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics

Scientific Name

Common Name

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

Prairie Width: 10 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.4 miles **Prairie present on opposite side of track:** No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: This remnant is highly degraded. This list is from an earlier IDOT botanical project (Handel 1996)

Plant List for Site N#27

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Agrostis alba

red top

2

Ambrosia artemisiifolia

common ragweed

2

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

3

Apocynum sibiricum

Indian hemp

3

Asclepias hirtella

tall green milkweed

1

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

2

Asclepias verticillata

whorled milkweed

2

Aster ericoides

heath aster

2

Aster novae-angliae

New England aster

2

Baptisia lactea

wild indigo

2

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

2

Desmodium canadense

showy tick trefoil

2

Eragrostis spectabilis

tumble-grass

1

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

3

Euthamia graminifolia

grassleaf goldenrod

2

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

4

Gaura biennis

gaura

1

Helianthus grosseserratus

tall sunflower

2

Helianthus hirsutus

bristly sunflower

2

Helianthus mollis

downy sunflower

3

Monarda fistulosa

wild bergamot

2

Oenothera biennis

evening primrose

2

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

3

Pycnanthemum virginianum

Virginia mountain mint

2

Rudbeckia hirta

black-eyed susan

2

Ruellia humilis

hairy petunia

1

Silphium terebinthinaceum

prairie dock

1

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|---|
| <i>Solidago canadensis</i> | tall goldenrod | 4 |
| <i>Solidago nemoralis</i> | dyersweed | 2 |
| <i>Tridens flavus</i> | purple top | 3 |
| <i>Vernonia baldwinii</i> | Baldwin's ironweed | 2 |

Site: District 7

N# 27

Date: 9/16/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL-33 near the town of Lis from 600 E to 560 E

County: Jasper

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16S 0390730 - 4319850

GPS Data Ending UTM 16S 0390065 - 4320295

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics

Scientific Name

Common Name

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

Prairie Width: 10 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.4 miles **Prairie present on opposite side of track:** No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: This list is from an earlier IDOT botanical project (Handel 1996). The remnant has degraded since the 1996 survey.

Plant List for Site N#27

| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| <i>Agrostis alba</i> | red top | 2 |
| <i>Ambrosia artemisiifolia</i> | common ragweed | 2 |
| <i>Andropogon gerardii</i> | big bluestem | 3 |
| <i>Apocynum sibiricum</i> | Indian hemp | 3 |
| <i>Asclepias hirtella</i> | tall green milkweed | 1 |
| <i>Asclepias syriaca</i> | common milkweed | 2 |
| <i>Asclepias verticillata</i> | whorled milkweed | 2 |
| <i>Aster ericoides</i> | heath aster | 2 |
| <i>Aster novae-angliae</i> | New England aster | 2 |
| <i>Baptisia lactea</i> | wild indigo | 2 |
| <i>Cirsium discolor</i> | field thistle | 2 |
| <i>Desmodium canadense</i> | showy tick trefoil | 2 |
| <i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i> | tumble-grass | 1 |
| <i>Euphorbia corollata</i> | flowering spurge | 3 |
| <i>Euthamia graminifolia</i> | grassleaf goldenrod | 2 |
| <i>Festuca pratensis</i> | meadow fescue | 4 |
| <i>Gaura biennis</i> | gaura | 1 |
| <i>Helianthus grosseserratus</i> | tall sunflower | 2 |
| <i>Helianthus hirsutus</i> | bristly sunflower | 2 |
| <i>Helianthus mollis</i> | downy sunflower | 3 |
| <i>Monarda fistulosa</i> | wild bergamot | 2 |
| <i>Oenothera biennis</i> | evening primrose | 2 |
| <i>Pastinaca sativa</i> | wild parsnip | 3 |
| <i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i> | Virginia mountain mint | 2 |
| <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> | black-eyed susan | 2 |
| <i>Ruellia humilis</i> | hairy petunia | 1 |
| <i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i> | prairie dock | 1 |

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|---|
| <i>Solidago canadensis</i> | tall goldenrod | 4 |
| <i>Solidago nemoralis</i> | dyersweed | 2 |
| <i>Tridens flavus</i> | purple top | 3 |
| <i>Vernonia baldwinii</i> | Baldwin's ironweed | 2 |

Site: District 7

N# 28

Date: 9/16/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL-33 just east of the town of Wheeler

County: Jasper

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16S 0387035 - 4322222

GPS Data Ending UTM 16S 0386393 - 4322455

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics

Scientific Name

Common Name

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

Prairie Width: 10 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.4 miles **Prairie present on opposite side of track:** No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: This list is from an earlier IDOT botanical project (Handel 1996)

Plant List for Site N#28

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Ambrosia bidentata

lanceleaf ragweed

1

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

4

Asclepias tuberosa

butterfly weed

2

Aster pilosus

hairy aster

2

Baptisia lactea

white wild indigo

1

Crotalaria sagittalis

rattlebox

2

Eryngium yuccifolium

rattlesnake master

3

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

3

Hypericum gentianoides

pinweed

1

Helianthus mollis

hairy sunflower

1

Panicum virgatum

switch grass

4

Polygala sanguinea

field milkwort

3

Polygala verticillata

whorled milkwort

3

Rudbeckia hirta

black-eyed susan

2

Solidago rigida

stiff goldenrod

4

Sorghastrum nutans

Indian grass

3

Spartina pectinata

prairie cord grass

2

Verbena hastata

blue vervain

1

Site: District 7

N# 29

Date: 9/16/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL-33 West of the town of Dieterich, North Ave to 2200 N.

County: Effingham

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16S 0379608 - 4324942

GPS Data Ending UTM 16S 0376131 - 4326954

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics

Scientific Name

Common Name

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Prairie Width: 10 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 2 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#29

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

4

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

1

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

2

Eupatorium altissimum

tall boneset

3

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

3

Helianthus mollis

hairy sunflower

1

Helianthus rigidus

prairie sunflower

1

Rudbeckia hirta

black-eyed susan

1

Silphium terebinthinaceum

prairie dock

1

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

1

Sorghastrum nutans

Indian grass

4

Verbena hastata

blue vervain

1

Vernonia missurica

Missouri ironweed

3

Site: District 7

N# 30

Date: 9/18/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL-40 1.4 miles from Teutopolis to Montrose

County: Effingham

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16S 0376271 - 4333367

GPS Data Ending UTM 16S 0378361 - 4334745

Quality Class: 2

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics, cultivation, mowing, erosion

Scientific Name

Common Name

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Phragmites australis

common red reed

Prairie Width: 30 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 2 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 1.9 miles **Prairie present on opposite side of track:** Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: Good density of forb species

Comments: The last mile of the remnant is protected from mowing by a deep drainage ditch. The ditch is eroding and over time will probably destroy this remnant.

Plant List for Site N#30

| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| <i>Andropogon gerardii</i> | big bluestem | 4 |
| <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> | butterflyweed | 1 |
| <i>Baptisia lactea</i> | white wild indigo | 2 |
| <i>Baptisia leucophaea</i> | cream wild indigo | 2 |
| <i>Cirsium discolor</i> | field thistle | 1 |
| <i>Diospyros virginiana</i> | persimmon | 2 |
| <i>Elymus canadensis</i> | Canada wild rye | 1 |
| <i>Elymus virginicus</i> | wild rye | 1 |
| <i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i> | rattlesnake master | 2 |
| <i>Helianthus mollis</i> | hairy sunflower | 4 |
| <i>Lespedeza capitata</i> | bush clover | 2 |
| <i>Liatris aspera</i> | rough blazing star | 1 |
| <i>Liatris pycnostachya</i> | gayfeather | 2 |
| <i>Panicum virgatum</i> | prairie switch grass | 2 |
| <i>Phalaris arundinacea</i> | reed canary grass | 3 |
| <i>Prunus americana</i> | American plum | 2 |
| <i>Salix exigua</i> | sandbar willow | 1 |
| <i>Sassafras albidum</i> | red sassafras | 2 |
| <i>Silphium laciniatum</i> | compass plant | 2 |
| <i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i> | prairie dock | 4 |
| <i>Solidago canadensis</i> | Canada goldenrod | 2 |
| <i>Solidago missouriensis</i> | Missouri goldenrod | 3 |
| <i>Solidago nemoralis</i> | dyersweed goldenrod | 4 |
| <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> | Indian grass | 4 |
| <i>Spartina pectinata</i> | prairie cord grass | 2 |

Site: District 7 N# 31
Date: 9/19/2002 **Evaluator(s):** William C. Handel

Location: US-45 Segal south to 2050th Ave.

County: Effingham **GPS Data: Starting** UTM 16S 0367880 - 4333109
GPS Data Ending UTM 16S 0370099 - 4340936

Quality Class: 2-3 **Natural Community Type(s):** Dry-mesic prairie/dry-mesic savanna
(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics, mowing

| Scientific Name | Common Name |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Festuca pratensis</i> | meadow fescue |

Prairie Width: 30 m **Signs or Evidence of Management:** No

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m **Railroad Activity:** Active

Prairie Length: 4.2 miles **Prairie present on opposite side of track:** Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: This remnant used to have greater diversity, however in recent years it has been mowed on regular intervals.

Comments: The area was mowed between the spring and summer surveys and many species could not be identified.

Plant List for Site N#31

| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|------------|
| <i>Andropogon gerardii</i> | big bluestem | 4 |
| <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> | butterflyweed | 1 |
| <i>Aster turbinellus</i> | prairie aster | 2 |
| <i>Carya tomentosa</i> | mockernut hickory | 1 |
| <i>Cornus racemosa</i> | gray dogwood | 2 |
| <i>Corylus americana</i> | hazelnut | 2 |
| <i>Elymus virginicus</i> | wild rye | 3 |
| <i>Eupatorium altissimum</i> | tall boneset | 3 |
| <i>Fragaria virginiana</i> | wild strawberry | 2 |
| <i>Frasera caroliniensis</i> | American columbo | 1 |
| <i>Helianthus grosseserratus</i> | sawtooth sunflower | 2 |
| <i>Helianthus mollis</i> | hairy sunflower | 2 |
| <i>Prunus americana</i> | American plum | 2 |
| <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> | bracken fern | 1 |
| <i>Quercus imbricaria</i> | shingle oak | 1 |
| <i>Quercus stellata</i> | post oak | 1 |
| <i>Silphium integrifolium</i> | rosinweed | 1 |
| <i>Solidago canadensis</i> | Canada goldenrod | 2 |
| <i>Solidago nemoralis</i> | dyersweed goldenrod | 3 |
| <i>Solidago rigida</i> | rigid goldenrod | 4 |
| <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> | Indian grass | 4 |
| <i>Tradescantia virginiana</i> | Virginia spiderwort | 1 |
| <i>Vernonia missurica</i> | Missouri ironweed | 3 |
| <i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i> | Culver's root | 1 |

Site: District 7

N# 32

Date: 9/17/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL-128 2425N to Moccasin Creek

County: Effingham

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16S 0343846 - 4328288

GPS Data Ending UTM 16S 0343933 - 4333749

Quality Class: 1-2

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic savanna

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: Exotics, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Lonicera japonica

Japanese honeysuckle

Prairie Width: 20 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: Yes

(Illinois Nature Preserve) Rock Cave Nature Preserve

Dist. from Pavement: 2 m

Railroad Activity: NA

Prairie Length: 3.6 miles **Prairie present on opposite side of track:** NA

Significant or Exceptional Features: This remnant has several conservative species.

Comments: This remnant occurs on both sides of IL-32. Most of the site is not protected.

Plant List for Site N#32

| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| <i>Agrostis alba</i> | red top | 2 |
| <i>Andropogon gerardii</i> | big bluestem | 3 |
| <i>Andropogon virginicus</i> | broom sedge | 2 |
| <i>Antennaria plantaginifolia</i> | everlasting | 2 |
| <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> | butterflyweed | 2 |
| <i>Aster turbinellus</i> | prairie aster | 2 |
| <i>Baptisia lactea</i> | white wild indigo | 1 |
| <i>Baptisia leucophaea</i> | cream wild indigo | 4 |
| <i>Carya ovata</i> | shagbark hickory | 3 |
| <i>Carya tomentosa</i> | mockernut hickory | 2 |
| <i>Cassia fasciculata</i> | partridge pea | 3 |
| <i>Danthonia spicata</i> | curly grass | 3 |
| <i>Dasistoma macrophylla</i> | mullein foxglove | 1 |
| <i>Desmodium sessilifolium</i> | sessile-leaved tick trefoil | 2 |
| <i>Elymus canadensis</i> | Canada wild rye | 2 |
| <i>Elymus hystrix</i> | bottlebrush grass | 2 |
| <i>Elymus virginicus</i> | wild rye | 2 |
| <i>Euphorbia corollata</i> | flowering spurge | 1 |
| <i>Festuca pratensis</i> | meadow fescue | 3 |
| <i>Fragaria virginiana</i> | wild strawberry | 3 |
| <i>Frasera carolinensis</i> | American columbo | 2 |
| <i>Helianthus divaricatus</i> | woodland sunflower | 2 |
| <i>Liatris aspera</i> | rough blazing star | 4 |
| <i>Liatris pycnostachya</i> | gayfeather | 3 |
| <i>Liatris scabra</i> | blazing star | 1 |
| <i>Lithospermum canescens</i> | hoary puccoon | 1 |

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| <i>Lonicera japonica</i> | Japanese honeysuckle | 3 |
| <i>Parthenium intergrifolium</i> | American feverfew | 1 |
| <i>Porteranthus stipulatus</i> | Indian physic | 2 |
| <i>Pycnanthemum pilosum</i> | hairy mountain mint | 2 |
| <i>Pycnanthemum tenuifolium</i> | slender mountain mint | 3 |
| <i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i> | mountain mint | 2 |
| <i>Quercus alba</i> | white oak | 2 |
| <i>Quercus imbricaria</i> | shingle oak | 2 |
| <i>Quercus palustris</i> | pin oak | 2 |

Plant List for Site N#32

| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|------------|
| <i>Quercus stellata</i> | post oak | 3 |
| <i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> | little bluestem | 2 |
| <i>Silphium integrifolium</i> | rosinweed | 1 |
| <i>Silphium perfoliatum</i> | cup plant | 1 |
| <i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i> | prairie dock | 2 |
| <i>Solidago canadensis</i> | Canada goldenrod | 1 |
| <i>Solidago missouriensis</i> | Missouri goldenrod | 1 |
| <i>Solidago nemoralis</i> | dyersweed goldenrod | 4 |
| <i>Solidago speciosa</i> | showy goldenrod | 1 |
| <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> | Indian grass | 3 |
| <i>Tradescantia ohiensis</i> | Ohio spiderwort | 2 |
| <i>Tradescantia virginiana</i> | Virginia spiderwort | 2 |
| <i>Verbesina helianthoides</i> | yellow crownbeard | 2 |

Site: District 7

N# 33

Date: 9/16/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Ramsey 750E.

County: Fayette

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16S 0317747 - 4336520

GPS Data Ending UTM 16S 0317709 - 4335451

Quality Class: 2

Natural Community Type(s): Mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: None

Prairie Width: 35 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: Yes
(Illinois Nature Preserve) Ramsey Prairie

Dist. from Pavement: 2 m

Railroad Activity: Abandoned

Prairie Length: 1.1 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: This remnant has conservation species.

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#33

| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| <i>Andropogon gerardii</i> | big bluestem | 4 |
| <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> | butterflyweed | 2 |
| <i>Aster novae-angliae</i> | New England aster | 2 |
| <i>Baptisia lactea</i> | white wild indigo | 2 |
| <i>Cassia fasciculata</i> | partridge pea | 5 |
| <i>Cirsium discolor</i> | field thistle | 1 |
| <i>Desmodium canadense</i> | showy tick trefoil | 2 |
| <i>Eupatorium altissimum</i> | tall boneset | 2 |
| <i>Euphorbia corollata</i> | flowering spurge | 4 |
| <i>Euthamia graminifolia</i> | grassleaf goldenrod | 3 |
| <i>Helianthus grosseserratus</i> | sawtooth sunflower | 2 |
| <i>Helianthus mollis</i> | hairy sunflower | 5 |
| <i>Helianthus strumosus</i> | pale-leaved sunflower | 3 |
| <i>Ratibida pinnata</i> | drooping coneflower | 2 |
| <i>Rhus glabra</i> | smooth sumac | 2 |
| <i>Silphium laciniatum</i> | compass plant | 2 |
| <i>Solidago canadensis</i> | Canada goldenrod | 5 |
| <i>Solidago rigida</i> | rigid goldenrod | 3 |
| <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> | Indian grass | 3 |
| <i>Spartina pectinata</i> | prairie cord grass | 3 |
| <i>Vernonia missurica</i> | Missouri ironweed | 2 |

Site: District 7

N# 34

Date: 9/16/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: 760 E.

County: Fayette

GPS Data: UTM 16S 0317604 - 4330082

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic savanna

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: None

Prairie Width: 40 m **Signs or Evidence of Management:** No

Dist. from Pavement: 0 m **Railroad Activity:** Abandoned

Prairie Length: 0.2 miles **Prairie present on opposite side of track:** Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#34

| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| <i>Andropogon gerardii</i> | big bluestem | 3 |
| <i>Camassia scilloides</i> | wild hyacinth | 4 |
| <i>Ceanothus americanus</i> | New Jersey tea | 2 |
| <i>Desmodium sessilifolium</i> | sessile-leaved tick trefoil | 2 |
| <i>Echinacea purpurea</i> | purple coneflower | 2 |
| <i>Frasera caroliniensis</i> | American columbo | 1 |
| <i>Helianthus mollis</i> | hairy sunflower | 2 |
| <i>Liatris aspera</i> | rough blazing star | 1 |
| <i>Porteranthus stipulatus</i> | Indian physic | 1 |
| <i>Psoralea psoralioides</i> | Sampson's snakeroot | 3 |
| <i>Quercus imbricaria</i> | shingle oak | 1 |
| <i>Ratibida pinnata</i> | drooping coneflower | 2 |
| <i>Rhus glabra</i> | smooth sumac | 2 |
| <i>Sassafras albidum</i> | red sassafras | 2 |
| <i>Silphium integrifolium</i> | rosinweed | 2 |
| <i>Solidago rigida</i> | rigid goldenrod | 2 |
| <i>Solidago ulmifolia</i> | elm-leaved goldenrod | 1 |
| <i>Tradescantia virginiana</i> | Virginia spiderwort | 4 |

Site: District 7

N# 35

Date: 9/16/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: 885 E. across from Shobonier School

County: Fayette

GPS Data: UTM 16S 0318889 - 4305597

Quality Class: 2

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: woody invasion

Prairie Width: 40 m **Signs or Evidence of Management:** No

Dist. from Pavement: 0 m **Railroad Activity:** Abandoned

Prairie Length: 0.2 miles **Prairie present on opposite side of track:** No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#35

| Scientific Name | Common Name | RAV |
|---|-----------------------------|------------|
| <i>Solidago canadensis</i> | Canada goldenrod | 3 |
| <i>Andropogon gerardii</i> | big bluestem | 2 |
| <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> | Indian grass | 4 |
| <i>Camassia scilloides</i> | wild hyacinth | 4 |
| <i>Sassafras albidum</i> | red sassafras | 3 |
| <i>Helianthus grosseserratus</i> | sawtooth sunflower | 2 |
| <i>Eupatorium altissimum</i> | tall boneset | 2 |
| <i>Baptisia lactea</i> | white wild indigo | 3 |
| <i>Panicum virgatum</i> | prairie switch grass | 3 |
| <i>Verbesina helianthoides</i> | yellow crownbeard | 3 |
| <i>Aster ericoides</i> | heath aster | 2 |
| <i>Elymus canadensis</i> | Canada wild rye | 2 |
| <i>Solidago nemoralis</i> | dyersweed goldenrod | 1 |
| <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> | butterflyweed | 2 |
| <i>Pycnanthemum tenuifolium</i> | slender mountain mint | 2 |
| <i>Helianthus mollis</i> | hairy sunflower | 4 |
| <i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i> | prairie dock | 2 |
| <i>Gaura biennis</i> | gaura | 1 |
| <i>Panicum oligosanthes</i> var. <i>scribnerianum</i> | panic grass | 1 |
| <i>Cassia fasciculata</i> | partridge pea | 2 |
| <i>Lactuca canadensis</i> | Canada lettuce | 2 |
| <i>Prenanthes aspera</i> | rough white lettuce | 1 |
| <i>Salix humilis</i> | prairie willow | 2 |
| <i>Silphium integrifolium</i> | rosinweed | 1 |
| <i>Ratibida pinnata</i> | drooping coneflower | 3 |
| <i>Liatris aspera</i> | rough blazing star | 2 |
| <i>Liatris pycnostachya</i> | gayfeather | 1 |
| <i>Solidago rigida</i> | rigid goldenrod | 3 |
| <i>Desmodium sessilifolium</i> | sessile-leaved tick trefoil | 1 |

Site: District 7

N# 36

Date: 9/16/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: US - 51 Both sides of 600 N. County Line Rd.

County: Fayette/Marion

GPS Data: UTM 16S 0318745 - 4299276

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Prairie Width: 10 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 2 m

Railroad Activity: Abandoned

Prairie Length: 0.6 miles **Prairie present on opposite side of track:** No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: Half of the remnant had been mowed by the time the summer/fall survey was conducted

Plant List for Site N#36

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Silphium laciniatum

compass plant

4

Liatris aspera

rough blazing star

3

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

4

Sorghastrum nutans

Indian grass

2

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

3

Tridens flavus

purple top

4

Helianthus grosseserratus

sawtooth sunflower

3

Silphium integrifolium

rosinweed

2

Helianthus rigidus

prairie sunflower

2

Elymus virginicus

wild rye

2

Solidago rigida

rigid goldenrod

1

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

1

Aster novae-angliae

New England aster

1

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

1

Pteridium aquilinum

bracken fern

1

Quercus palustris

pin oak

1

Site: District 7

N# 37

Date: 9/16/2002

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: In the town of Patoka just south of Deer Creek

County: Marion

GPS Data: UTM 16S 0318011 - 4291958

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics

Scientific Name

Common Name

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Prairie Width: 25 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 1 m

Railroad Activity: Abandoned

Prairie Length: 0.1 miles **Prairie present on opposite side of track:** No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#37

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Aristida longespica

three awn

2

Aster ericoides

heath aster

2

Aster pilosus

hairy aster

1

Baptisia lactea

white wild indigo

3

Baptisia leucophaea

cream wild indigo

2

Cassia fasciculata

partridge pea

3

Eryngium yuccifolium

rattlesnake master

2

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

2

Liatris aspera

rough blazing star

1

Liatris pycnostachya

gayfeather

1

Ratibida pinnata

drooping coneflower

2

Silphium terebinthinaceum

prairie dock

3

Solidago nemoralis

dyersweed goldenrod

1

Solidago rigida

rigid goldenrod

2

Sorghastrum nutans

Indian grass

5

Tridens flavus

purple top

3

Mowed Areas

1. Hamilton County
IL-142 south of McLeansboro
This area was primarily forested with small patches of prairie vegetation in the spring.
2. Jefferson County
County 350 E near the town of Cravat
3. Marion County
IL-51 Junction City
This area had spring prairie and savanna vegetation, but was mowed before the fall survey.
4. Marion County
Farthing Road south of Odin
This appears to have some quality prairie. A few conservative species still existed near the tracks.
- 5-7. Effingham and Jasper counties
IL-33 between Newton and Teutopolis
These prairie remnants were mowed several times throughout the year. They appear to be mostly prairie grasses.
8. Crawford County
IL-1 north of Robinson
This appears to have some quality prairie. Most had been mowed to the tree line.