



# Showy milkweed

*Asclepias speciosa* (Milkweed family)

Native

Host plant for Monarch butterflies  
Native Americans made cord and fabric of its fibers

# White prairie clover

*Dalea candida* (Pea family)

Native

Often in low sprawling clumps



# Musk thistle

*Carduus nutans* (Sunflower family)

Introduced

A tall weed that found where the land has been disturbed -- along roads and trails. This didn't appear in Colorado until 1950. On state noxious weed list





# Poppymallow

*Callirhoe involucratas* (Mallow family)

Native

Deep taproot, sprawling form.  
Few flowers so brightly colored

# Prairie coneflower

*Ratibida columnifera* (Sunflower family)

Native

Native Americans used leaves and  
flower heads as tea



# Sweetclover

*Melilotus officinale* (Pea family)

Introduced

Introduced as forage crop, now an  
escapee along trails and roads.  
Bees love this for honey making





# Cheatgrass

*Anisantha tectorum* (Grass family)

Introduced

Weedy grass with little forage value when dry and with sharp parts that hurt animals mouths -- and stick terribly to your socks!

# Curly dock

*Rumex crispus* (Buckwheat family)

Introduced

Leaf edges are curled. Very young leaves are edible but bitter. The seeds can also be ground for flour



# Salsify

*Tragopogon dubius* (Sunflower family)

Introduced

Single blooms on long stem. A weed, but an attractive one.