

Soapstone Prairie Natural Area

Mid to Late August Plants-2012



Photogragss

Gayfeather

Liatrix punctata
(Sunflower family)

native

A nice purple contrast to the many yellow flowers this time of year



Photogragss

Bush sunflower

Helianthus pumilus
(Sunflower family)

native

Bushy plant with rough leaves and stems. Seeds eaten by Native Americans.



Photogragss

Broom groundsel

Senecio spartioides
(Sunflower family)

native

Native American dye plant. Toxic to and unpalatable to livestock.



Photogragss

Blanketflower

Gaillardia aristata
(Sunflower family)

native

One of the brightest flowers on the prairie; these are just about finished blooming now



Photogragss

Curly-cup Gumweed

Grindelia squarrosa
(Sunflower family)

native

Very sticky buds. Very drought and poor soil tolerant. Can be used to make a yellow dye.



Photogragss

Common Vervain

Verbena bracteata
(Flax family)

introduced

common prostrate weed with very tiny purple flowers



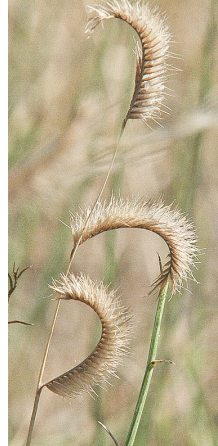


Photoglass

**Broom
snakeweed**
*Gutierrezia
sarthrae*
(Sunflower family)

native

dried heads could be
used for brooms;
unpalatable to live-
stock



Photoglass

Blue grama
*Chondrosium
gracile*
(Grass family)

native

One of the most impor-
tant forage grasses of
the plains; sometimes
called the “eyelash”
grass



Golden aster
*Heterotheca
villosa*
(Sunflower family)

native

common; used as an
insect repellent

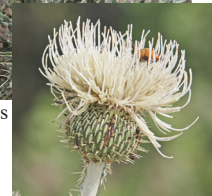


Photoglass

Plains thistle
Cirsium canescens
(Sunflower family)

native

These are still blooming
but looking scraggly.
Native thistles are an
important food source
for insects and birds



Photoglass