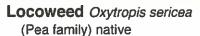
Soapstone Prairie Natural Area Late May Plants









Photograss

The most abundant flower right now. This Spring has been cool and other flowers are slow to bloom. Leaves are at the base of the plant and not on the flowering stem. This plant is beautiful to look at but is toxic to livestock, especially to horses.



Wallflower

Erysimum spp. (Mustard family) native Wallflower is abundant in this early season and is one of the brightest spots on the prairie.

Photograss

There are a number of milkvetches at Soapstone, mostly blooming early. Some milkvetches are also called locoweed. There are hundreds of species of Astragalus in North America.

Missouri milkvetch

Astragalus missouriensiss (Pea family) native



Photograss









Photograss

Mountain bladderpod

Lesquerella montana (Mustard family) native

This plant is usually found on granitic soils. It grows relatively close to the ground with small 4-petaled flowers and pods that turn up.. These are quite abundant along the Lindenmeier Trail.





Photograss

Whisk broom parsley

Harbouria trachypleura (Parsley family) native Another spot of yellow color to brighten up the landscape. This is not abundant.

You may notice that the most common early plants are in the Mustard and Pea families.

