



bud



blooms

Yucca

Yucca glauca

(Agave family) native

A very useful plant. Leaves can be shredded from the sharp point to make the equivalent of needle and thread. Shampoo can be made from pounded roots — why a common



Fineleaf hymenopappus

Hymenopappus filifolius (Sunflower family) native. Not very conspicuous, but abundant this year. Flower heads on thin stems. Very fine felt-like hairs on foliage create a gray-green color



Blanket flower

Gaillardia aristata

(Sunflower family) native.

Commonflowers. These are very attractive to butterflies

Soapstone Prairie Early July Plants



Prickly poppy

Argemone hispida

(Poppy family)

native

The largest and showiest plant right now. The foliage resembles thistle, and has numerous prickles on the stem and especially on the veins of the leaves. The flowers are distinctly poppy-like. There are almost always orange beetles and other insects on them





Geyer's larkspur

Delphinium geyeri

(Buttercup family) native

These strikingly blue and beautiful flowers can be toxic to cattle and horses



Little sunflower

Helianthus pumilus

(Poppy family) native

Very common this time of year. Stems and leaves have stiff, bristly hairs and feel a bit like sandpaper to the touch.



Scarlet beeblossom

Oenothera suffrutescens /Gaura coccinea/

(Evening primrose family) native. These beautiful small plants have a long blooming season. Notice the red anthers that produce pollen on long stalks well beyond the petals. The white stigmas where the pollen lands to fertilize the flower also extend well beyond the petals. Very common this year



Winterfat

Krascheninnikovia lanata

(Goosefoot family) native

Shrubby clumps look gray because of very hairy flower heads. Provides excellent winter forage for animals.