



White Prairie Clover

Dalea candida (Pea family) native
Drought resistant. Like others in this family, able to take Nitrogen from the air to add to soil fertility



Prickly poppy

Argemone hispida (Poppy family)
native

Large white petals and bright yellow stamens. The foliage has numerous sharp prickles. The flowers are host to a variety of insects.



Indian ricegrass

Achnatherum hymenoides (Grass family) native
Does well on dry hillsides. Native Americans used the small seeds for grain.



Winterfat

Krascheninnikovia lanata (Goosefoot family) native
Gray-green color from very hairy plant parts. Makes excellent winter forage — hence the common name.

Soapstone Prairie Plants Late July



Skunkbush

Rhus trilobata (Sumac family) native
These mounded shrubs are very common here. The fuzzy red berries can produce a lemonade-like drink. Native Americans used the leaves for tanning leather and split stems for basket making.



Prairie sunflower

Helianthus pumilus (Aster family) native. Usually taller and more common than plant below. Foliage covered with small stiff prickles that give the feeling of sandpaper.



Hairy goldenaster

Heterotheca villosa (Aster family) native.

Fairly low plants with closely spaced small leaves. Foliage covered with fine hairs and often scattered longer ones.

Plants in the Aster family

For many plants in this family, what looks like a single flower is a head made up of many flowers. The “petals” are each separate ray flowers having a single petal. The inner “eye” is also made up of many separate disk flowers different in form from the ray flowers. With this arrangement, a pollinator can efficiently pollinate multiple flowers at one visit.

outer ray flowers



inner disk flowers



Broom-like ragwort

Senecio spartiodes (Aster family) native.

Fairly tall plant with thin relatively few droopy yellow rays. Native American dye and medicinal