Celebrate Nebraska’s Wildflowers
Wildflower Week | June 1-9, 2024
More information about statewide Wildflower Week events: plantnebraska.org/wildflower-week

No space between words when name contains more than one word. *Asterisk denotes woodland wildflower.

ACROSS
3  Bane of pastures and noxious weed.
7  Has very sharp, swordlike foliage.
11  Placed on wounds to stop bleeding during Civil War.
12  Two body parts in this single common name.
13  Wouldn’t want to wash with this, though common name implies that.
16  Cat’s claws.
18  Hat for bald head.
19  Common name refers to stem juices that can be stretched out like spider’s strands.
21  Western wildflower with huge white blossoms and spiny foliage.
24  Edible and oniony.
25  Juices of this plant are reddish.
30  Sap from stems was used as chewing gum.
31  Dried seedhead looks like part of a pine tree.
32  Important food source for butterflies.
36  Stems were tough enough to be bundled as brooms.
37  Fragrant and deep-rooted; common to Nebraska roadsides.
39  Leaves can be dried to make a wonderful hot beverage.
40  Wonderful plant for honey production.
42  Airy pink to white flowers on tall stems.

DOWN
1  Handle with gloves! Milky juices can irritate skin.
2  Vessel for dairy spread.
4  Not made of this element, but a sturdy plant nonetheless.
5  Name contains month and fruit name.*
6  A color plus sewing fiber.
8  Doesn’t sound native to the region, but it is.
9  Highly prized medicinal.*
10  Achoo!
14  Beautiful blue flowers on plant best cut back to avoid flopping.
15  Common name of this early-bloomer refers to spring holiday.
17  Small, sweet fruits on this groundcover.
18  This plant won’t necessarily make you more intelligent.
20  Shaped like Native American artifact.
22  Leaves fold in strong winds or from handling.
23  State flower does not cause hayfever, in spite of common misconception.
26  Deep roots & narrow leaves make it extremely drought-tolerant.
27  In heights from creeping to standing.*
28  An animal’s facial hair.*
29  Spring native with red and yellow blossoms.
33  Common to lawns and a shade of purple.*
34  Greek botanical name refers to dolphin-like shape of the flowers.
35  gentian One form of this plant is closed (“bottle”).
38  Refers to beautiful blue blossoms.
41  Also called blue flag.
Nebraska Wildflower Crossword Puzzle

plantnebraska.org/wildflower-week

ANSWERS WITH QUESTIONS

ACROSS
3 thistle / Bane of pastures and noxious weed.
7 yucca / Has very sharp, swordlike foliage.
11 yarrow / Placed on wounds to stop bleeding during Civil War.
12 beardtongue / Two body parts in this single common name.
13 soapweed / Wouldn’t want to wash with this, though common name implies that.
16 pussytoes / Cat’s claws.
18 skullcap / Hat for bald head.
19 spiderwort / Common name refers to stem juices that can be stretched out like spider’s strands.
21 prickly poppy / Western wildflower with huge white blossoms and spiny foliage.
24 allium / Edible and oniony.
25 bloodroot / Juices of this plant are reddish.
30 compass plant / Sap from stems was used as chewing gum.
31 coneflower / Dried seedhead looks like part of a pine tree.
32 milkweed / Important food source for butterflies.
33 prairie clover / Stems were tough enough to be bundled as brooms.
37 wild rose / Fragrant and deep-rooted; common to Nebraska roadsides.
39 New Jersey tea / Leaves can be dried to make a wonderful hot beverage.
40 bee plant / Wonderful plant for honey production.
42 gaura / Airy pink to white flowers on tall stems.

DOWN
1 spurge / Handle with gloves! Milky juices can irritate skin.
2 buttercup / Vessel for dairy spread.
4 ironweed / Not made of this element, but a sturdy plant nonetheless.
5 mayapple / Name contains month and fruit name, though flower rather than fruit appears in this month.*
6 greenthread / A color plus sewing fiber.
8 New England aster / Doesn’t sound native to the region, but it is.
9 wild ginger / Highly prized medicinal.*
10 sneezeweed / Achoo!
14 pitcher sage / Beautiful blue flowers on a plant that is best cut back early to avoid flopping.
15 pasqueflower / Common name of this early-bloomer refers to spring religious holiday.
17 strawberry / Small, sweet fruits on this groundcover.
18 smartweed / This plant won’t necessarily make you more intelligent.
20 arrowhead / Shaped like Native American artifact.
22 bundleflower / Leaves fold in strong winds or from handling.
23 goldenrod / State flower does not cause hayfever, in spite of common misconception.
26 primrose / Deep roots & narrow leaves make it extremely drought-tolerant.
27 phlox / In heights from creeping to standing.*
28 goat's beard / An animal’s facial hair.*
29 columbine / Spring native with red and yellow blossoms.
33 violet / Common to lawns and a shade of purple.*
34 larkspur / Greek botanical name refers to dolphin-like shape of the flowers.
35 gentian / One form of this plant is closed (“bottle”).
38 indigo / Refers to beautiful blue blossoms.
41 iris / Also called blue flag.