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An Annotated List of the Vascular Plants of Keith County, Nebraska

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An Annotated List of the Vascular Plants of Keith County, Nebraska

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This study provides an annotated list of the vascular plants known to exist outside of cultivation in Keith County, Nebraska. Listed are a total of 599 species, subspecies and varieties belonging to 302 genera of 87 families. Notes are included about frequency and habitat for each of the taxa. 264 (44.1%) of the taxa listed were previously unreported for Keith County. Additionally, the paper discusses vegetation regions in the county and gives information in tabular form about numbers of the flora in different taxa, the ten largest families, numbers of taxa of different growth habits, and numbers of taxa in different habitats.

INTRODUCTION
Keith County (Fig. 1) is a rectangular county of 281,020 hectares situated just northeast of the angle made by the panhandle of Nebraska with the wider part of the state. Since it includes the site of Cedar Point Biological Station, it has drawn considerable attention from botanists and botany students in recent years. Judging from the large number of previously unreported taxa found in this study (264 taxa or 44.1% of the total flora), Keith County has been somewhat undercollected in the past. This study draws upon herbarium material from a large number of collectors but is principally the result of collections made by the authors from 1981 through 1989. Although most of these collections were made during the summer sessions of the Biological Station, we have made additional collecting trips both before and after those sessions.

CLIMATE
Keith County has a climate typical of the High Plains region (Layton and Buckhannan, 1926). It has relatively short, warm summers and long, cold winters with the average date of the last killing frost in mid-May and the average date of the first one in late September. Most of the precipitation falls as rain from May to August.

SOILS
The soils of the area north of Lake McCoraugy and the North Platte River are composed principally of eolian sand and remain largely as uncultivated rangeland (Layton and Buckhannan, 1926; Soil Conservation Service and Conservation and Survey Division, 1981 and 1982). The two Platte rivers flow in beds of sandy alluvium over sand, and the bottomlands and terraces near the rivers are composed of loamy, clayey, and silty alluvium. Some of the terrace area has been cultivated; some of it remains in prairie meadows or in floodplain woodland. Much of the area between the two rivers consists of uplands whose soil is composed of sandy alluvium over sand and gravel or of loess and weathered sandstone; especially where it is steep and rocky, much of this area has been left in rangeland. Where the riverbeds diverge in the central and western parts of Keith County, the middle of this region opens out into arable ground, most of which is in cultivation; this ground is mainly eolian sand and loess in the center of the county and deep loess farther to the west. The area south of the alluvium associated with the South Platte River exhibits a variety of soils: loess, eolian sand and loess, eolian sand and loam, and additional regions of sandy alluvium over sand and gravel. The easternmost of these regions, an area of steep topography near the Roscoe Draw, has remained partly in rangeland.

LAND USE
According to the recent Census of Agriculture (United States Department of Agriculture, 1982), about 58.2% of Keith County is in rangeland, with 1.2% in "pastureland and hayland," 1.9% in woodland, 8% in "urban, built up and other," and 30.7% in cropland. According to that same source the major crops, in order of importance, are wheat, corn, oats, and tame hay with minor amounts of soybeans, sorghum, and other crops being grown.
FIGURE 1. Map of Keith County showing places mentioned in this paper.

FIGURE 2. Map of major vegetation regions of Keith County. A (irregular stipple): largely uncultivated sandhills prairie; B (horizontal lines): unforested floodplain (see text for description of vegetation); C (vertical lines): largely uncultivated shortgrass prairie, grading into mixed prairie in lower ground; D (vertical and diagonal lines): shortgrass prairie region, which is largely under cultivation; E (solid black): approximate location of forested regions. (No attempt has been made to show numerous shelter-belts and farm plantings. Trees adjacent to rivers and lakes are floodplain species; trees in the shortgrass region just west and south of the center of the county are principally red cedar.)
VEGETATION

The major vegetation regions of Keith County are mapped in Fig. 2. Sandhills prairie clothes the northern part of the county almost uninterrupted except for occasional patches of prairie meadow, where moisture conditions and topography are suitable, and some regions of wetland vegetation along streams and around ponds. Occasional groves of trees exist here, mostly as a result of human intervention. Only small areas in this region are in cultivation.

The areas near the two rivers have a complex array of vegetation types. In and near the riverbeds are changing associations of sand-bar and gravel-bar plants. Where the bank has been stable for a while, these give way to sandbar willow and, farther back from the edge, to floodplain forest dominated originally mostly by plains cottonwood, American elm, and green ash but now containing also some introduced trees, such as white mulberry and Siberian elm. This forest may vary from very dense and fairly extensive as it is along the North Platte River in the eastern part of the county, to very open and savanna-like in many places. For example near the Roscoe-Keystone Road on the North Platte River, the bottomland is very gravelly, and the trees are scattered and in small groves, while the area between the trees contains an interesting mixture of xerophytes or near-xerophytes, particularly sand dropseed, green sage and Plains prickly pear. Such an association is also seen in some places along the South Platte River. Bottomlands farther away from the riverbed are often occupied by prairie meadows in various conditions. Some of these have been left in natural prairie; in others, the natural grass has been interseeded with exotic species; in still others, the natural vegetation has largely been removed and introduced pasture grasses and legumes now predominate.

### TABLE I. Numbers of the vascular flora of Keith County in different taxa

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Divisions</th>
<th>Families</th>
<th>Genera</th>
<th>Species, subspecies, &amp; varieties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Equisetophyta</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polypodiophyta</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinophyta</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magnoliophyta</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Magnoliopsida</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Liliopsida</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>87</strong></td>
<td><strong>302</strong></td>
<td><strong>599</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TABLE II. The ten largest families in the Keith County flora

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family</th>
<th>Number of species, subspecies, or varieties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poaceae</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asteraceae</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fabaceae</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyperaceae</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brassicaceae</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polygonaceae</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lamiaceae</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Onagraceae</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scrophulariaceae</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chenopodiaceae</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>370</strong> (61.7% of total flora)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TABLE III. Number of taxa (species, subspecies, and varieties) of different growth-habits in the Keith County Flora

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Growth-habit</th>
<th>Number of taxa</th>
<th>Percentage of total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Herbaceous perennials</td>
<td>348</td>
<td>58.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herbaceous annuals</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>30.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woody perennials</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biennials</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>599</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TABLE IV. Numbers of taxa (species, subspecies or varieties) in different habitats in Keith County*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Habitat</th>
<th>Number of taxa</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ruderals of disturbed ground</td>
<td>261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mixed or shortgrass prairie</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>streambanks or riverbanks</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sandhills prairie</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>moist lowland or prairie meadow</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>woodland</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aquatic</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>thickets</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rocky ledges</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>persisting locally from cultivation</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Many taxa are listed in more than one habitat.
Most of the remainder of the county must originally have been clothed in shortgrass prairie on the uplands, grading into mixed prairie on lower ground (Kaul, 1975), and that combination of plant associations still exists in areas of steep topography or where the soils are gravely or rocky. Most of this region, however, is now under extensive cultivation. The rangeland areas between the two Platte rivers may give a fair picture of the original vegetation, but the association must have differed somewhat in the areas now cultivated, because of the more open topography and the different soil substrate.

Steep-sided rocky canyons and north-facing rocky slopes south of the North Platte River in the vicinity of Cedar Point Biological Station contain rather well-developed and sometimes nearly impenetrable forests of red cedar. These forests give way to mixed prairie on the upper slopes which grades into shortgrass prairie on the ridges.

599 species, subspecies, and varieties of vascular plants, belonging to 87 families and 302 genera, are known to occur outside of cultivation in Keith County (Table I). This represents about a third of the total number of taxa known for Nebraska. 484 (80.8%) of the taxa are apparently native; 115 (19.2%) are evidently naturalized or persisting from cultivation. The ten most important families (comprising 61.7% of the total flora) are listed in Table II. As can be seen from Table III, the Keith County flora consists mostly of herbaceous perennials with about half as many herbaceous annuals and very small numbers of woody perennials and biennials.

Although many species occur in more than one habitat and habitat categories tend to be overlapping, a listing of approximate species numbers in various habitats has been attempted in Table IV. This table gives various habitats in descending order according to the number of species they contain. The greatest diversity is found in disturbed ground, with shortgrass and mixed prairie, stream and river banks, moist lowlands and prairie meadows, and sandhills prairies also supplying relatively large numbers of species.

**EXCLUDED SPECIES**

The following species have been reported for Keith County in the *Atlas of the Flora of the Great Plains* (Great Plains Flora Association, 1977) but the voucher specimens are doubtful or incorrect: Amaranthaceae: *Amaranthus palmeri*. The specimens are *A. arenicola*. Asteraeaceae: *Aster falcatus*. The specimens are doubtful and probably should be referred to *A. ericoides*. Boraginaceae: *Cryptantha thyrsiflora*. The specimen is *C. jamesii*, although *C. thyrsiflora* might well occur in the western part of the county. *Lappula echinata*. The specimen is too immature to identify for certain but it is either L. redowskii or *L. texana*. Commelinaceae: *Tradescantia bracteata*. This report appears to be based on *T. occidentalis*. Polygonaceae: *Rumex orbiculatus*. This report appears to be based on *R. stenophyllus*. Iridaceae: *Sisyrinchium angustifolium*. This report is based on *S. montanum*. Scrophulariaceae: *Veronica catenata*. The report is based on *Vanagallis-aquatica*. Vitaceae: *Vitis vulpina*. The report is based on *V. riparia*.

**UNVERIFIED SPECIES**

The following are also reported from Keith County and seem possible, but we have not yet seen vouchers. Amaranthaceae: *Amaranthus rudis*. Asteraeaceae: *Antennaria neglecta*, *Echinacea angustifolia*, *Helianthus tuberosus*. Cyperaceae: *Carex heliophila*. Fabaceae: *Astragalus drummondii*, *Astragalus hyalinus*, *Oxytropis sericea*. Lamiales: *Monarda fistulosa*. Onagraceae: *Oenothera biennis*.


**ANNOTATED LIST**

Unless otherwise noted in the list which follows, taxa are all represented by vouchers at the herbarium at Cedar Point Biological Station. An asterisk (*) indicates that the plant was not reported for Keith County in the *Atlas of the Flora of the Great Plains* (Great Plains Flora Association, 1977). The following symbols are used: (K) indicates that the plant was listed in Kaul et al. 1983, (S) that it was listed in Sutherland and Kaul, 1986, and (R) that it was listed in Rolfsmeier et al., 1987; [SR] indicates that a voucher is not known to exist but that a credible sight record has been made; and [NEB], [OMA], [KANU], [CONCORDIA] and [DOANE] are used to indicate taxa that do not have vouchers at the Cedar Point Biological Station Herbarium, but for which specimens exist at University of Nebraska herbaria at Lincoln and Omaha, University of Kansas, and at Concordia and Doane colleges, respectively. In order to conserve space, nomenclatural citations have been omitted unless they differ from those given in *Flora of the Great Plains* (Great Plains Flora Association, 1986). Places mentioned in the list are mapped in Fig. 1.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

We are grateful for the assistance of Robert Kaul throughout the preparation of this paper. We also thank John Janovy, Jr., Anthony Joem, Linda Vescio, and many staff members and students at Cedar Point Biological Station for their assistance.

**LITERATURE CITED**


Kaul, R. B. 1975. *Vegetation of Nebraska* (Circa 1850). Map 1:1,000,000. Conservation and Survey Division, University of Nebraska, Lincoln.


I. EQUISETOPHYTA

Equisetaceae

Equisetum arvense. Field horsetail. Occasional in low ground, floodplains.*

Equisetum laevigatum. Smooth scouring rush. Fairly common in ditches or moist prairie, including sandhills prairie.

II. PTERIDOPHYTA

Polypodiaceae

Cheilanthes feei. Slender lip fern. Uncommon on canyon walls and ledges. (K)
Pellaea atropurpurea. Purple-stemmed cliff brake. Rare on canyon walls and ledges. (K)*

Woodsia oregana. Oregon woodsia. Uncommon on canyon walls, ledges, and north slopes. (K)*

Salviniaeae


III. PINOPHYTA

Cupressaceae

Juniperus cf. horizontalis. Creeping juniper. Very rare; known from a single male plant on an open slope just south of Cedar Point Biological Station and from a sterile plant growing in the shade of Juniperus virginiana on a steep slope west of the Station. These specimens, although they somewhat resemble prostrate forms of J. virginiana, do not match that species when viewed microscopically and so are hesitantly assigned here. The specimen from the shaded slope demonstrates both juvenile and adult leaves.*

Juniperus virginiana. Red cedar. Common in canyons. Many of the plants show some degree of intermediacy to J. scopulorum. (Rocky mountain juniper). Although J. scopulorum has been reported from Keith County, all specimens we have seen are closer to J. virginiana. (K)

IV. MAGNOLIOPHYTA

A. Magnoliopsida (Dicots)

Aceraceae

Acer negundo var. negundo. Box elder. Occasional floodplain tree.*

Acer negundo var. violaceum. Box elder. Occasional floodplain tree.*

Acer saccharinum. Silver maple. Planted and persisting around homes and along streets. Also occurring occasion-ally away from human habitation in areas where it is unlikely to have been planted.*

Amaranthaceae

Amaranthus albus. Tumbleweed. Occasional in disturbed ground.*

Amaranthus arenicola. Sandhills pigweed. Common in disturbed ground, primarily in sand.*


Amaranthus retroflexus. Rough pigweed. Common in disturbed ground.*


Froelichia gracilis. Slender snake-cotton. Occasional in disturbed sandy or gravelly areas in floodplains.*

Anacardiaceae

Rhus aromatica var. serotina. Fragrant sumac. Canyons and roadsides.

Rhus aromatica var. trilobata. Fragrant sumac. Canyons and roadsides. [Doane]*

Toxicodendron rydbergii. Poison ivy. Locally common in dry canyons and prairie. (K)*

Apocynaceae

Berula erecta var. incisum. Water-parsnip. Locally abundant in shallow running water.

Cicuta maculata. Common water hemlock. Occasional in low, wet ground.*

Conium maculatum. Poison hemlock. Locally abundant in disturbed ground in floodplains.

Cymopteris acaulis. Wild parsley. Occasional in upland prairie.

Cymopteris montanus. Mountain corkwing. Upland prairie. Known from an 1890 collection made by Sprague [Doane]. The label information says "Lewellen, Keith County," so the most likely location appears to be from western Keith County.*

Apocynaceae

Apocynum cannabinum. Indian hemp dogbane. Common in disturbed ground, especially in floodplains.

Asclepladaceae


Asclepias engelmanniana. Engelmann’s milkweed. Occasional in upland prairie and canyons.*

Asclepias incarnata. Swamp milkweed. Common in wet ground.*

Asclepias lanuginosa. Woolly milkweed. Uncommon in sand prairie.*

Asclepias pumila. Plains milkweed. Locally common in upland prairie. (K)*

Asclepias verticillata. Whorled milkweed. Occasional in roadside meadows and pastures.
Asclepias viridiflora. Green milkweed. Scattered in upland prairie and sandhills prairie. (K)

Asteraceae

Achillea millefolium. Yarrow. Common in prairies and along roadsides.
Ambrosia acanthicarpa. Annual bursage. Locally common in open sandy roadside areas.*
Ambrosia artemisiifolia. Common ragweed. Very common in disturbed ground.*
Ambrosia psilostachya. Western ragweed. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie, and in disturbed ground.
Ambrosia trifida. Giant ragweed. Occasional in disturbed, moist ground. (K)*
Antennaria neodioica. Northern pussy-toes. Uncommon on ledges in canyons. This species is near the southern edge of its range.*
Antennaria parvifolia. Pussy-toes. Occasional in prairie, including sandhills prairie.
Artemisia campestris subsp. caudata. Western sage-wort. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie, and in floodplain where disturbed and dry. (K)
Artemisia dracunculus. Silky wormwood. Uncommon; known from dry, rocky roadside just north of the South Platte River near Paxton.*
Artemisia filifolia. Sand sagebrush. Scattered in dry prairie. (K)*
Artemisia frigida. Sage. Abundant in dry prairie. (K)*
Artemisia ludoviciana var. ludoviciana. White sage. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie, and along roads.*
Artemisia ludoviciana var. mexicana. Occasional along the road at Cedar Point Biological Station, where it was possibly introduced with seeded grasses.*
Aster brachyactis. Rayless aster. Uncommon in low meadows in disturbed ground. Known from near the North Platte River at Clear Creek Wildlife Management Area.*
Aster ericoides. White aster. Common in prairie and canyons. At least one of the collections assigned here has conspicuously larger capitula and could be assigned to A. commutatus.
Aster junciformis. Rush aster. Rare in boggy ground. Known from along Lonerger Creek.*

Aster oblongifolius. Aromatic aster. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie.
Aster praealtus var. nebraskensis. Willowleaf aster. Uncommon in low, damp sites, known from along Whitetail Creek near Keystone. [KANU]
Aster simplex var. ramosissimus. Panicked aster. In low, moist places.*
Bidens comosa. Tufted beggar-ticks. Occasional in wet ground.
Bidens coronata. Tickseed sunflower. Occasional in wet ground and shallow water.
Carduus nutans. Musk thistle. An uncommon ruderal.*
Chrysopsis horrida. Golden aster. Relatively common in canyons, upland prairie, and on roadbanks.*
Chrysopsis villosa var. villosa. Golden aster. Common in canyons, prairie (including sandhills prairie), and on roadbanks. A few Keith County specimens approach var. angustifolia but are probably best assigned here. (K)
Cirsium altissimum. Tall thistle. Occasional at forest edges, roadsides.*
Cirsium arvense. Canada thistle. Occasional as a ruderal in low ground.*
Cirsium canescens. Plate thistle. Scattered in sandy prairie and disturbed ground.*
Cirsium flodmanii. Flodman's thistle. Occasional in prairie, including sandhills prairie, and in disturbed ground along roadsides.*
Cirsium undulatum. Wavy-leaved thistle. Occasional in disturbed ground in canyons and prairie, including sandhills prairie. (K)*
Conyza canadensis. Horse-weed. A common ruderal of disturbed ground.
Conyza ramosissima Spreading fleabane. A rare ruderal of disturbed ground; known only from around burrow openings in a prairie dog town south of Ogallala.*
Coreopsis tinctoria. Plains coreopsis. Locally abundant in roadsides and floodplains in low ground.*
Crepis runcinata. Hawk's beard. Occasional in prairie meadows.*
Erigeron bellidiastrum. Western fleabane. Common in sand prairie and disturbed, sandy or rocky places.  
Erigeron pumilus. Fleabane. Rare in upland prairie.*  
Erigeron strigosus. Daisy fleabane. Occasional in prairie and along roadsides.  
Eupatorium maculatum var. brunerii. Joe Pye weed. Occasional in moist ground in floodplains.*  
Euthamia gymnospemoides. Viscid euthamia. Locally common in moist ground.  
Euthamia occidentalis. Western euthamia. This species was reported by Barkley (In Great Plains Flora Association, 1986, p. 937) to be adventive in the Platte River Valley. We find it to be very common in Keith County on sandbars and riverbanks.*  
Gutierrezia chilense. Cotton-batting. Uncommon on moist ground in floodplains. (S)*  
Gutierrezia sarothrae. Curly-top gumweed. Common along roadsides and in disturbed areas. (K)*  
Gutierrezia dracunculoides. Broomweed. Rare in disturbed ground near Cedar Point Biological Station. Possibly introduced with grass plantings at this location. (S)*  
Gutierrezia riddellii. Riddell ragwort. Locally common in sandy or rocky places.  
Helenium autumnale. Sneezeweed. Relatively common in upland prairie. (K)*  
Haplopappus spinulosus. Cutleaf ironplant. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie. (K)  
Helianthus annuus. Common sunflower. Common in disturbed ground (K)*  
Helianthus maximilianii. Maximilian sunflower. Locally common in low prairie and in roadside ditches.  
Helianthus petiolaris. Plains sunflower. Common in disturbed areas. (K)  
Helianthus rigidus. Stiff sunflower. In prairie, including sandhills prairie, and along roads.*  
Hymenopappus filifolius var. polycephalus. Occasional to common in prairie, including sandhills prairie. (K)  
Hymenopappus tenuifolius. Occasional to common in prairie, including sandhills prairie.  
Hymenoxys scaposa var. glabra. Scapose bitterweed. Uncommon in upland prairie. This taxon is at the extreme northern edge of its range in Keith County.*  
Iva xanthifolia. Marsh elder. Locally abundant in disturbed ground (K)  
Kuhnia eupatorioides var. corymbulosa. False bone- set. Occasional to common in prairie, including sandhills prairie.  
Lactuca ludoviciana. Western wild lettuce. Occasional in disturbed ground.*  
Lactuca oblongifolia. Blue lettuce. Locally common on roadbanks, disturbed ground, and in low sandhills prairie.*  
Liatris lancifolia. Lance-leaved gay-feather. Locally common in prairie meadows.  
Liatris punctata. Dotted gay-feather. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie. (K)  
Liatris squarrosa var. glabrata. Common in sandhills prairie.  
Lygodesmia juncea. Skeletonweed. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie, and along roadsides. (K)*  
Machaeranthera tanacetifolia. Tansy aster. Rare in sandy, somewhat disturbed habitat.*  
Microseris cuspidata. False dandelion. Occasional in dry prairie, including sandhills prairie.  
Pectis angustifolia. Locally common in sandy or gravelly areas near water.  
Ratibida columnifera. Prairie coneflower. Locally common in prairie, including sandhills prairie and along roadsides. (K)  
Senecio plattensis. Prairie ragwort. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie. (K)  
Senecio riddellii. Riddell ragwort. Locally common in sandhills prairie.*  
Shinnersoseris rostrata. Annual skeletonweed. Occasional in gravel flats near the Keystone bridge and in sandhills prairie.*  
Silphium integrifolium. This is far west of its natural range. It is introduced at two locations near Cedar Point Biological Station and appears to be doing well at at least one of those sites.*  
Solidago canadensis var. gilvocanescens. Canada goldenrod. Common in low ground, often along roads.*  
Solidago canadensis var. scabra. Canada goldenrod. In low ground along the Platte River.  
Solidago gigantea. Late goldenrod. Locally common in low ground.*  
Solidago missouriensis. Prairie goldenrod. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie.  
Solidago mollis. Soft goldenrod. Scattered in canyons and prairies. The leaves are commonly seen, but plants may flower infrequently.  
Solidago nemoralis. Gray goldenrod. Scattered in prairie, including sandhills prairie, and in open woods.
Solidago rigida. Rigid goldenrod. Occasional in prairie and open woods.
Sonchus arvensis subsp. uliginosus. Field sow thistle. Occasional in disturbed ground.*
Sonchus asper. Prickly sow thistle. Occasional in disturbed ground.*
Thelesperma filifolium var. intermedium. Green-thread. Very common in prairies, pastures, and roadsides.
Thelesperma megapotamicum. Common in prairie. (K)
Townsendia exscapa. Easter daisy. Uncommon in canyons and in prairie, including sandhills prairie. (K)*
Tragopogon dubius. Goat's beard. Common along roadsides in disturbed ground and in prairie. (K)
Verbesina encelioides subsp. exauriculata. Annual crownbeard. Rare in disturbed sites, known from the floodplain of the South Platte River near Brule. [KANU]
Vernonia baldwinii subsp. interior. Western ironweed. Occasional in low, moist ground.*
Vernonia fasciculata subsp. corymbosa. Ironweed. Occasional in ditches and low ground.
Xanthium strumarium. Cocklebur. Common in low, moist disturbed places. (K)
Balsaminaceae
Impatiens capensis. Spotted touch-me-not. Locally abundant in damp shaded to open ground, usually near streams.

Boraginaceae
Cryptantha celosioides. In prairies and canyons. Known from an 1890 collection made by Sprague [Doane]. The label information says "Lewellen, Keith County," so the most likely location appears to be from western Keith County.*
Cryptantha jamesii. Relatively common in prairie, including sandhills prairie, and in canyons. (K)
Cryptantha minima. Occasional in dry prairie, including sandhills prairie.
Lappula roedowskii. Stickseed. Common in disturbed areas, prairies, including sandhills prairies. (K)
Lappula texana. Stickseed. Rare in disturbed ground. [NEB]*
Lithospermum incisum. Puccoon. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie, and along roadsides. (K)*

Brassicaceae
Alyssum desertorum. Alyssum. Introduced in dry waste areas. Known from a parking lot at Spring Park, on the north side of Lake McConaughy.*

Arabis hirsuta var. pycnocarpa. Rock cress. Rare in wooded canyons. Our record is considerably south of the other known records for western Nebraska.*
Brassica juncea (L.) Czern. Wild turnip. Rare in waste ground; known from an abandoned homestead in Eagle Canyon. [NEB]*
Camelina microcarpa. Small-seeded false flax. Occasional in disturbed ground.*
Chorispora tenella. Blue mustards. Very common in disturbed areas, especially in Ogallala.
Descurainia pinnata subsp. brachycarpa. Tansy mustard. Common in disturbed areas.*

Descurainia sophia. Flixweed. Common in disturbed areas.*
Draba reptans. White whitlowort. Occasional on canyon floors.*
Erysimum asperum. Western wallflower. Very common in prairie, including sandhills prairie.
Hesperis matronalis. Dame's rocket. Introduced in a variety of habitats, including wooded marshes and shaded to open disturbed areas.*
Lepidium densiflorum. Peppergrass. Very common in dry disturbed areas.
Lepidium latifolium. This species has been recently introduced and has become locally common on sandbars and in riverbeds. (S)*
Lesquerella ludoviciana. Bladderpod. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie. (K)

Nasturtium officinale. Watercress. Locally common in shallow, mostly flowing water.
Rorippa palustris subsp. glabra var. fernaldiana. Bog yellow cress. Common in damp places or shallow water.
Rorippa palustris subsp. hispida var. hispida. Bog yellow cress. In moist places or shallow, standing water.
Rorippa sinuata. Spreading yellow cress. Locally common in moist places or shallow water. Also on dry roadsides.
Rorippa truncata. Truncate yellow cress. Known from shores of Lake McConaughy. [NEB]*
Sisymbrium altissimum. Tumbling mustard. Common in disturbed areas and along roadsides. (K)
Thlaspi arvense. Field pennycress. Very common in disturbed areas.*

Cactaceae
Coryphantha vivipara. Pincushion cactus. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie. (K)*
Echinocereus viridiflorus. Hedgehog cactus. Rare in upland prairie. This species is known from one colony on slopes south of Cedar Point Biological Station. There are a
few other known locations in western Nebraska and south-western South Dakota. The plants are small and easily confused with Coryphantha vivipara when they are not in bloom. Even when in bloom, the yellowish-green flowers are not conspicuous. (R)*

Opuntia fragilis. Little prickly pear. Locally common in prairie, especially in sandhills prairie, and in sandy or rocky waste places. (K)*

Opuntia macrorhiza. Plains prickly pear. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie, and in rocky or gravelly ground in floodplains. (K)*

Opuntia polyacantha. Plains prickly pear. Occasional to locally common in prairie, but not often in sandhills prairie or in floodplains. It often grows with O. macrorhiza and is somewhat difficult to distinguish from it when not in fruit. In flower the plants of both species apparently show considerable variation in color from clear yellow to yellow tinged with red.*

Caesalpiniaceae

Gleditsia triacanthos. Honey locust. Planted and persistent at Cedar Point Biological Station and elsewhere; evidently spreading from seed and root-suckers at several locations. All of the material we have seen is the thornless f. inermis.*

Gymnocladus dioica. Kentucky coffee tree. Planted and persistent at the homestead at Cedar Point Biological Station.*

Campanulaceae

Campanula rapunculoides. Creeping bellflower. Persisting from cultivation in shaded areas.*

Lobelia siphilitica. Blue cardinal flower. Occasional in damp ground.*

Lobelia spicata. Palespike lobelia. Occasional in prairie meadows and near streams.*

Triodanis leptocarpa. A rare ruderal introduced, probably with grass plantings, along the road at Lake Ogallala. (S)*

Cannabaceae

Cannabis sativa. Marijuana. A rare ruderal in moist ground.*

Capparaceae

Cleome serrulata. Rocky mountain bee plant. Locally abundant along roadsides and in disturbed prairie, including sandhills prairie. (K)

Polanisia dodecandra subsp. trachysperma. Clammyweed. Common in sandy or gravelly moist areas.

Caryophyllaceae

Dianthus armeria. Deptford pink. Occasional in disturbed areas and along roadsides. (S)

Paronychia depressa. Nailwort. Locally common, forming small mats on rocky ledges and ridges.

Saponaria officinalis. Bouncing bet. Escaped from cultivation in scattered locations.*

Silene noctiflora. Night-flowering catchfly. Uncommon in disturbed sites, known from Kingsley Dam. [KANU]

Stellaria longifolia. Long-leaved stitchwort. Rare in damp ground along streams.*

Celastraceae


Ceratophyllaceae

Ceratophyllum demersum. Hornwort. Rather common as submerged, floating plant in lakes and ponds.*

Chenopodaceae

Atriplex argentea. Silver-scale saltbush. In disturbed ground near Lake Ogallala. [SR]*

Atriplex subspicata. Spearscale. Common in disturbed, often shaded ground.

Chenopodium album. Lamb's quarters. In disturbed ground.*

Chenopodium berlandieri. Pitseed goosefoot. Along roadsides and in disturbed ground.

Chenopodium fremontii. Fremont goosefoot. Occasional on shaded banks.*

Chenopodium gigantospermum. Maple-leaved goosefoot. Occasional in woods and on shaded banks.*

Chenopodium glaucum. Oak-leaved goosefoot. Common on sandy banks and sandbars.

Chenopodium pratericola. Goosefoot. In open and disturbed areas.*

Chenopodium rubrum. Alkali blite. Known from disturbed ground, west end of Lake McConaughy [NEB]. Immature specimens which probably represent this species have been collected from other floodplain sites.

Corispermum nitidum. Bugseed. Occasional in disturbed sandy areas.*


Salsola collina. Tumbleweed. Common in sandy, disturbed ground.*

Salsola iberica. Russian thistle. Occasional in sandy, disturbed ground. (K)*

Clusaceae

Hypericum majus. Greater St. John's-wort. Uncommon on streambanks and in wet places.*
**Convolvulaceae**

*Calystegia sepium* subsp. *angulata*. Hedge bindweed. Occasional vine climbing on other vegetation in disturbed places.

*Convolvulus arvensis*. Field bindweed. A common ruderal, especially on mowed roadsides.

*Evolvulus nutallianus*. Scattered in prairie, including sandhills prairie.

*Ipomoea leptophylla*. Bush morning-glory. Locally common in sandy prairies and pastures. (K)

**Crassulaceae**

*Penthorum sedoides*. Ditch stonecrop. Occasional in marshy ground in floodplain woods along the rivers.

**Cucurbitaceae**

*Cucurbita foetidissima*. Buffalo-gourd. Rare vine forming large clumps in pastures and along roads. Known from Eagle Canyon; also observed along the rocky bluffs north of the North Platte River in the extreme western part of the county.

*Echinocystis lobata*. Wild cucumber. Occasional scrambling vine of riverbanks and ditches, not uncommonly seen climbing on bulrushes or cattails.

*Sicyos angulatus*. Bur cucumber. Uncommon in damp disturbed sites, known near the north edge of Lake McConaughy. [KANU]

**Cuscutaceae**

*Cuscuta gronovii*. Gronovius' dodder. Common on various hosts, especially weedy Asteraceae, in floodplains.

*Cuscuta indecora*. Large alfalfa dodder. On various hosts in floodplains.

**Elaeagnaceae**


*Shepherdia argentea*. Buffaloberry. Occasional in prairies and floodplains.

**Euphorbiaceae**

*Croton texensis*. Texas croton. Common in dry prairies (including sandhills prairie), pastures, and disturbed areas. (K)

*Euphorbia dentata*. Toothed spurge. Occasional in disturbed ground.

*Euphorbia geyeri*. Geyer's spurge. Locally common in disturbed sandhills prairie.

*Euphorbia glyptosperma*. Ridge-seeded spurge. Common on roadsides, in parking lots, and in other disturbed ground.


*Euphorbia maculata*. Spotted spurge. Along roads and in parking lots in disturbed ground, apparently uncommon in Keith County.

*Euphorbia marginata*. Snow-on-the-mountain. Locally common in disturbed ground. (K)

*Euphorbia missurica*. Missouri spurge. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie, and in disturbed areas. (K)

*Euphorbia nutans*. Eyebane. Apparently uncommon, known from rocky banks along the North Platte River north of Roscoe.

*Euphorbia prostrata*. Prostrate spurge. Along roadsides, in parking lots, and in other disturbed ground.

*Euphorbia serpens*. Round-leaved spurge. In disturbed ground, especially along roads.

*Euphorbia serpyllifolia*. Thyme-leaved spurge. Gravelly areas in floodplains.

*Euphorbia stictospora*. Mat spurge. Along roadsides, in parking lots, and in other disturbed ground.

**Fabaceae**

*Amorpha canescens*. Lead plant. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie.

*Amorpha fruticosa*. False indigo. Locally common near streams and ponds and in floodplains.

*Astragalus adsurgens var. robustior*. Standing milk-vetch. Common in prairie. (K)

*Astragalus canadensis*. Canada milk-vetch. Occasional in open, moist habitats.

*Astragalus ceramicus var. filifolius*. Painted milk-vetch. Occasional in sand prairie. [KANU]


*Astragalus missouriensis*. Missouri milk-vetch. Occasional in prairie.

*Astragalus mollissimus*. Woolly locoweed. Occasional in upland prairie.


*Astragalus sericoleucus*. Silky orophaca. Locally common, forming low mats on rock outcrops.


*Dalea candida var. candida*. White prairie-clover. Along road near Cedar Point Biological Station where possibly introduced.

*Dalea candida var. oligophylla*. White prairie-clover. Common in upland prairie, including sandhills prairie. (K)

*Dalea cylindrica*. Barneby. Massive spike prairie-clover. Rare in sandy or rocky ground. Known from north of Ogalalla, but not recently collected. Specimens were observed at the South Platte River near Hershey, Lincoln County in 1989. They occupied a kind of rocky, sandy habitat which is very common along both branches of the Platte in Keith County, so it is hoped that this rare species
still may be found there. It appears to be a biennial or a short-lived perennial and may well be monocarpic. [NEB]

*Dalea enneandra* Nutt. Nine-anther prairie-clover. Locally common in upland prairie. (K)

*Dalea leporina*. Foxtail dalea. A rare plant of sandy, moist disturbed habitat.*

*Dalea purpurea* var. *arenicola*. Purple prairie-clover. Common, principally in upland prairie and sandhills prairie. (K)*

*Dalea purpurea* var. *purpurea*. Purple prairie-clover. Common, principally in prairie meadows and relatively moist prairie. (K)*

*Desmodium canadense*. Canada tickclover. Locally common in moist areas near streams.*

*Galega officinalis*. Yellow sweet clover. Very common in disturbed ground. (K)*

*Lathyrus polymorphus*. Hoary vetchling. Locally common in upland prairie, including sandhills prairie.


*Lupinus pusillus*. Small lupine. Scattered in prairies and pastures. (K)

*Medicago lupulina*. Black medick. Very common in disturbed ground.*

*Melilotus albus*. White sweet clover. Occasional in disturbed ground. (K)

*Melilotus officinalis*. Yellow sweet clover. Very common in disturbed ground. (K)*

*Oxytropis lambertii*. Purple locoweed. Locally common in upland prairie and sandhills prairie. (K)

*Psoralea argophylla*. Silver-leaf scurf-pea. Occasional in prairie. (K)

*Psoralea digitata*. Palm-leaved scurf-pea. Uncommon in prairie, including sandhills prairie. (K)

*Psoralea esculenta*. Prairie turnip. Scattered in prairie.*

*Psoralea hypogaea*. Little breadroot scurf-pea. Relatively rare in prairie and open woods. Our records from Keith County are east of the other Nebraska records. The plant is also known from Arthur County. (S)*


*Psoralea linearifolia*. Slimleaf scurf-pea. Rare or overlooked; known from a single plant collected on a rocky ledge in the central part of Eagle Canyon, but to be expected elsewhere in the western part of Keith County.*

*Psoralea tenuiflora* var. *tenuiflora*. Wild alfalfa. Common in upland prairie and sandhills prairie. (K)

*Strophostyles leiosperma*. Slick-seed bean. Locally common on open roadbanks and in sandy places.*

*Thermopsis rhombifolia*. Prairie buck bean. Rare in upland prairie. (K)*

*Trifolium fragiferum*. Strawberry clover. Extensively established in large stands at Clear Creek Wildlife Management Area in low sandy areas near the North Platte River and to be expected in other sandy areas along streams.*

*Trifolium hybridum*. Alsike clover. Occasional along roadsides and in other disturbed areas.*

*Trifolium pratense*. Red clover. Common in disturbed areas and along roadsides.*

*Vicia americana* var. *minor*. American vetch. Occasional to locally common in upland prairie, prairie meadows, canyons, and open woods.*

*Vicia villosa*. Hairy vetch. Locally common along roadsides and in other disturbed ground.*

*Corydalis aurea* subsp. *occidentalis*. Golden corydalis. A rare ruderal known from disturbed ground east of Cedar Point Biological Station. (S)*

*Eustoma grandiflorum*. Prairie gentian. Occasional to locally common in low wet places, especially in prairie meadows.*

*Fumariaceae*

*Ribes odoratum*. Buffalo currant. Common in thickets and along roadsides. (K)

*Halmagraceae*


*Hydrophyllaceae*

*Ellisia nyctelea*. Waterpod. Common in prairie, open woods, and disturbed areas.*

*Juglandaceae*

*Juglans nigra*. Black walnut. In woods east of Keystone, where probably planted. Young trees were also noted along an irrigation canal north of Paxton; these may represent escapes from cultivation.*

*Grossulariaceae*

*Lamiaceae*

*Hedeoma drummondii*. Drummond false pennyroyal. Occasional on rocky ledges. (K)

*Hedeoma hispidum*. Rough false pennyroyal. Abundant in disturbed ground in prairie and in canyons.*

*Leonurus cardiaca*. Motherwort. Occasional in floodplain woods.*

Lycopus asper. Rough bugleweed. Common in moist places at the edges of ponds and streams.

Lycopus uniflorus. One flower horehound. Common in moist places at the edges of ponds and streams.

Marrubium vulgare. Common horehound. Uncommon, known from a pasture near Clear Creek.

Mentha arvensis. Field mint. Relatively common in marshes and wet places.


Nepeta cataria. Catnip. Occasional in disturbed ground, often in the shade.

Prunella vulgaris. Self-heal. Uncommon in low or moist disturbed ground.

Salvia azurea. Blue sage. Uncommon. Introduced along the road at Cedar Point Biological Station.

Salvia reflexa. Rocky mountain sage. Locally common in disturbed areas and along roadsides.

Scutellaria galericulata. Mad-dog skullcap. Occasional in moist places at the edges of ponds and streams.

Scutellaria lateriflora. Marsh skullcap. Occasional in moist ground near streams and ponds.

Teucrium canadense var. boreale. American germander. Common in moist habitats or at woodland edges.

Linaceae


Linum rigidum var. rigidum. Yellow flax. Common in prairie. (K)

Loasaceae

Mentzelia decapetala. Ten-petal mentzelia. Uncommon on open, rocky slopes at mouth of Eagle Canyon.

Mentzelia nuda. Blazing star. Common in sandy or gravelly open areas. (K)

Lythraceae

Ammannia robusta. Toothcup. Occasional in moist ground near open water.

Lythrum alatum. Winged loosestrife. Locally common in moist ground near streams and ponds.

Malvaceae

Callirhoe involucrata. Purple poppy mallow. Locally common in somewhat disturbed, open areas.


Malva rotundifolia. Common mallow. A rare ruderal in disturbed ground; known only from a near a watering trough in Eagle Canyon.

Sphaeralcea coccinea. Red false mallow. Common in prairies, including sandhills prairie, and along roadsides. (K)

Mimosaceae


Moraceae


Nyctaginaceae

Abronia fragrans. Sweet sand verbena. Occasional in sandhills prairie and in other sandy places. (K)

Mirabilis hirsuta. Hairy four-o'clock. Occasional in dry prairie, including sandhills prairie.

Mirabilis linearis. Narrowleaf four-o'clock. Occasional along roadsides and in prairie, including sandhills prairie.

Mirabilis nyctaginea. Wild four-o'clock. Relatively common along roadsides and in disturbed areas.

Oleaceae

Fraxinus pennsylvanica. Green ash. Common in floodplains and canyons. (K)

Ligustrum vulgare. Common privet. In the floodplain near Cedar Point Biological Station, perhaps persisting after cultivation or spreading from a nearby garden.

Onagraceae

Calylophus lavandulifolius. Lavender primrose. Uncommon on open, rocky slopes at mouth of Eagle Canyon and in similar habitat north of the North Platte River in the extreme western part of the county. (K)

Calylophus serrulatus. Plains yellow primrose. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie. (K)

Epilobium ciliatum Raf. Willow herb. Common in moist ground along streams.

Epilobium coloratum. Purple-leaved willow herb. Occasional in moist ground near streams.

Epilobium leptophyllum Raf. Narrow-leaved willow herb. Occasional in moist ground near water.

Gaura coccinea. Scarlet gaura. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie, and along roadsides. (K)

Gaura parviflora. Velvety gaura. Occasional along roadsides. (K)

Oenothera albicaulis. Prairie evening primrose. In prairie, including sandhills prairie.

Oenothera coronopifolia. Combleaf evening primrose. Rare to locally common in sandy or rocky areas.

Oenothera laciniata. Cut-leaved evening primrose. Occasional in open, disturbed areas.

Oenothera latifolia. Pale evening primrose. Occasional in sandy areas, including sandhills prairie.

Oenothera nuttallii. White-stemmed evening primrose. Occasional in prairie, including sandhills prairie.
Oenothera rhombipetala. Fourpoint evening primrose. Occasional in sandhills prairie and in sandy disturbed areas.*

Oenothera speciosa. Showy evening primrose. Known from two locations near Cedar Point Biological Station, where it may have been introduced with grass plantings.*

Oenothera villosa. Common evening primrose. Relatively common in disturbed areas. Some of the Keith County specimens of this may be keyed to O. biennis, but these two taxa appear to intergrade completely in this region.*

Orobanche fasciculata. Broomrape. Parasitic on Artemisia frigida; not uncommon, but populations variable in size from year to year. The plants are evidently monocarpic.*


Oxalis dillenii. Gray-green wood sorrel. An uncommon ruderal in Ogallala.*

Argemone polyanthemos. Prickly poppy. Common along roadsides and in sandy areas and canyons. (K)*

Plantago aristata. Bracted plantain. Uncommon along road near Cedar Point Biological Station where recently introduced and probably not persisting. (S)*

Plantago eriopoda. Alkali plantain. Occasional in prairie meadows and damp areas.*

Plantago major. Common plantain. Scattered in disturbed sites, known from the floodplain of the South Platte River.*

Plantago patagonica. Patagonian plantain. Common in dry, disturbed areas, especially in sandy areas. (K)

Plantago rugelii. Rugel's plantain. Locally common in disturbed areas.*

Ipomopsis longiflora. Long-flowered gilia. Common in dry sandhills prairie and occasional in other sandy places.*

Phlox andicola. Plains phlox. Occasional in dry sandhills prairie and in other sandy locations.

Polygala alba. White milkwort. Common in prairies and canyons. (K)

Polygala australis. Annual eriogonum. Occasional in sandhills prairie and in sandy open areas in floodplains. (K)

Polygonum amphibium var. emersum. Swamp smartweed. Common in marshy areas, on sandbars, and in damp ground.

Polygonum arenastrum. Knotweed. Common in disturbed ground, especially along roads and in parking lots.*

Polygonum bicorne. Pink smartweed. Occasional to locally common in moist ground.*

Polygonum convolvulus. Climbing buckwheat. An uncommon ruderal in fields and pastures.*

Polygonum hydropiper. Water pepper. Occasional in damp ground in floodplains.*

Polygonum lapathifolium. Pale smartweed. Occasional in moist ground, often near open water.


Polygonum persicaria. Lady's thumb. Common in moist ground in fields and ditches.


Polygonum ramosissimum. Knotweed. Occasional in damp ground, often near water. (K)*

Polygonum scandens. False buckwheat. Occasionally found climbing on shrubs and other vegetation in waste areas.*

Rumex alitissimus. Pale dock. Common in damp ground and on sandbars.*

Rumex crispus. Curly dock. Common in disturbed, often damp, ground.*

Rumex maritimus. Golden dock. Occasional in damp areas and sandbars.

Rumex stenophyllus. Dock. Common in damp areas along streams.

Rumex venosus. Wild begonia. Occasional in loose sand.

Portulaca oleracea. Common purslane. A ruderal in pavement cracks and dry ground.*

Talinum calycinum. Rockpink. Uncommon in sandhills prairie; flowers pink or magenta, showy in early evening.*

Talinum parviflorum. Prairie fuchsia. Rare in rocky prairie; known from a small colony on an open slope directly south of Cedar Point Biological Station; flowers white or very pale pink, evidently diurnal.*

Primula florindae. Shooting star. Locally common in prairie meadows north of Paxton.

Anemone patens. Pasque flower. Locally common in prairie and open woods. (K)

Clematis ligusticifolia. Western clematis. A vine climbing on trees and shrubs in canyons. (K)*

Delphinium virens. Prairie larkspur. Occasional in pastures and prairie, including sandhills prairie.*
Ranunculus cymbalaria. Shore buttercup. Common in or near water, often on sandbars.


Ranunculus macounii. Macoun’s buttercup. Scattered in moist areas in floodplains.

Ranunculus sceleratus. Cursed crowfoot. Common in or near water.

Rosaceae

Geum aleppicum. Yellow avens. Uncommon in damp ground.

Potentilla argentea. Silvery cinquefoil. Known from waste ground at an I-80 rest stop and from along the road near Ogallala. [CONCORDIA, NEB]. (R)


Potentilla pensylvanica. Cinquefoil. Rare in sandy ground. Known from an 1890 collection made by Sprague [Doane]. The label information says "Lewellen, Keith County," so the most likely location appears to be from western Keith County.

Potentilla rivalis. Brook cinquefoil. Occasional in moist ground.

Prunus americana. Wild plum. Commonly forming thickets along roads and fences.

Prunus pumila var. besseyi. Sand cherry. In sandhills prairie, especially on ridgetops.

Prunus virginiana. Choke cherry. Commonly forming thickets in cayons, along roads, and in prairie, including sandhills prairie. (K)

Rosa arkansana. Prairie rose. Locally common in sandhills prairie.

Rosa woodsii. Western wild rose. Relatively common in open woods in floodplains.

Rubiaceae


Galium trifidum L. Small bedstraw. Fairly common in marshy ground along streams or rivers.

Salicaceae


Salix amygdaloides. Peach-leaved willow. A common floodplain tree.

Salix babylonica. Weeping willow. A commonly planted tree, persisting but probably not escaping.

Salix exigua subsp. exigua. Coyote willow. Uncommon at the edges of streams and rivers.

Salix exigua subsp. interior. Sandbar willow. Common floodplain shrub at the edges of streams and rivers.

Salix lutea Nutt. Shining willow. Common in wet shores at Kingsley Dam.

Santalaceae

Comandra umbellata subsp. pallida. Bastard toadflax. Relatively common in dry, upland prairie, partially parasitic on a variety of other plants.

Scrophulariaceae

Agalinis tenuifolia. Gerardia. Moist areas along streams.

Castilleja sessiliflora. Downy paintbrush. Occasional in upland prairie and on rocky ledges.

Mimulus glabratus var. fremontii. Roundleaf monkey-flower. Common in or near shallow water.

Mimulus guttatus DC. Common yellow monkey-flower. Uncommon along streams; known from both Sand Creek and Lonergan Creek, and it has been collected more than once at each location. It is otherwise unknown from Nebraska.


Penstemon abidus. White beardedtongue. Occasional in prairie, including sandhills prairie.

Penstemon angustifolius var. angustifolius. Narrow beardedtongue. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie. (K)

Penstemon angustifolius var. caudatus. Narrow beardedtongue. Collected by Kiener in sandy soil at Kingsley Dam. [NEB]

Penstemon grandiflorus. Large beardedtongue. Not common in sandy soil along roads; known from just north of Kingsley Dam.

Verbascum blattaria. Moth mullein. Uncommon in disturbed area along road near Cedar Point Biological Station where evidently introduced with grass planting and probably not persisting. (S)


Veronica americana. Brooklime speedwell. At the edge of or in water, much less common than V. anagallis-aquatica. Occasional plants are intermediate between this and the next species.

Veronica anagallis-aquatica. Water speedwell. Very common at edge of or in water.

Veronica arvensis. Corn speedwell. Uncommon in moist, disturbed ground along road near Cedar Point Biological Station, where probably introduced with grass planting. (S)

Veronica peregrina var. xalapensis. Purslane speedwell. In damp muddy soil.
Simaroubaceae

Ailanthus altissima. Tree-of-heaven. Planted and persistent in some locations.*

Solanaceae

Physalis hederifolia var. comata. Prairie ground cherry. Occasional in waste ground and sandhills prairie.*

Physalis heterophylla. Clammy ground cherry. Occasional in prairie and waste areas.*

Physalis longifolia. Common ground cherry. Common in prairies, pastures, along roads, and in waste areas.*

Physalis pumila subsp. hispida. Prairie ground cherry. Occasional in waste ground and sandy prairie.*

Solanum interius. Plains black nightshade. Scattered in disturbed ground. (K)

Solanum rostratum. Buffalo bur. Common in disturbed ground. (K)

Solanum triflorum. Cut-leaved nightshade. Occasional in pastures and waste places. [NEB]

Ulmaceae

Celtis occidentalis. Hackberry. Relatively common in floodplains and canyon floors. (K)*

Ulmus americana. American elm. Relatively common in floodplains and along roads. (K)*

Ulmus pumila. Siberian elm. Relatively common in floodplains and along roads. (K)*

Urticaceae

Boehmeria cylindrica. False nettle. Occasional in marshes and moist areas.*


Pilea fontana. Clearweed. Locally abundant in moist, shaded areas in floodplains.*

Urtica dioica subsp. gracillis. Stinging nettle. Common in woods and disturbed moist ground.*

Verbenaceae

Lippia lanceolata. Northern fog-fruit. Locally abundant in moist areas near water.*


Verbena simplex. Narrow-leaved vervain. Uncommon ruderal along road near Cedar Point Biological station where recently introduced and probably not persisting. (S)*

Verbena stricta. Hoary vervain. Common in pastures and disturbed ground. (K)

Viola pratincola. Blue prairie violet. Infrequent; known from a disturbed area near a culvert at Sand Creek, but to be expected in a variety of places.*

Vitaceae

Parthenocissus quinquefolia. Virginia creeper. Known from Ogallala where probably planted as an ornamental.*

Parthenocissus vitacea. Woodbine. A common vine in floodplains on banks, shrubs, and trees. (K)

Vitis riparia. Riverbank grape. A common vine on streambanks, along road, and in woods.

Zygophyllaceae

Tribulus terrestris. Puncture vine. Locally common in waste ground along roads. (K)

B. Liliopsida (Monocots)

Agavaceae

Yucca glauca. Yucca. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie. It makes a dramatic display in areas which are not grazed before blooming time. Both branched and unbranched inflorescences are found. (K)*

Allsmataceae

Alisma triviale. Water plantain. Occasional in mud in or near water.*

Sagittaria calycina. Arrowhead. Uncommon in mud in or near water. Known from a stock tank in Eagle Canyon [NEB]; a single plant observed but not collected on the floodplain of the North Platte River at Clear Creek Wildlife Management Area.

Sagittaria cuneata. Arrowhead. Occasional in mud in or near water.*

Sagittaria latifolia. Arrowhead. Occasional in mud in or near water.*

Commelinaceae

Commelina erecta var. angustifolia. Erect dayflower. Relatively common in sandhills prairie and sandy disturbed ground. (K)

Tradescantia occidentalis. Spiderwort. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie.

Cyperaceae

Carex aurea. Golden sedge. Known from Lonergan Creek bank. [NEB]

Carex brevior. Shorter sedge. To be expected in a variety of habitats. Known from a creek bank north of Ogallala and from a meadow near Keystone.

Carex comosa. Bearded sedge. Uncommon in moist ground in floodplains.*

Carex crawei. Crawe's sedge. Uncommon or overlooked in moist ground, known from Kingsley Dam. [KANU]

Carex filifolia. Thread-leaved sedge. Common in prairie. (K)*
Carex hallii. Hall's sedge. In low prairies. Known from tallgrass meadows along the North Platte River near Kingsley Dam. [NEB]

Carex hystericina. Porcupine sedge. Occasional near streams.

Carex lanuginosa. Woolly sedge. In marshes.

Carex nebraskensis. Nebraska sedge. In and near streams.

Carex praegracilis. Slender sedge. In marshes and damp ground.

Carex stipata. Crowded sedge. In marshes.

Carex vulpinoidea. Foxtail sedge. In marshes and damp ground.

Cyperus acuminatus. Acuminate sedge. Uncommon, known from wet ground near Kingsley Dam. [NEB]

Cyperus aristatus. Bristly sedge. Common on sandbars and in open, wet places.

Cyperus diandrus. Two-stamen sedge. Occasional on sandbars and in wet places.*


Cyperus esculentus. Yellow nut-grass. Occasional in a variety of damp habitats.*

Cyperus lupulinus subsp. lupulinus. Hop sedge. Occasional in damp places in prairie meadows.*

Cyperus odoratus. Fragrant sedge. Common on sandbars and near water.

Cyperus rivularis. Stream sedge. Occasional on sandbars and near water.

Cyperus schweinitzii. Schweinitz sedge. Common in sandy, dry or damp places.

Cyperus striigosus. Lean sedge. Occasional near water.

Eleocharis acicularis. Needle spikerush. Relatively common at the edges of ponds and streams.


Eleocharis macrostachya. Spikerush. In wet places. Known from the edge of a seepage pond north of Ogallala. [NEB]

Fimbristylis puberula var. interior. Fimbrystylis. Uncommon to locally common in wet places.

Hemicarpha microtis. Rare in wet sand along streams. Known from near the North Platte River north of Paxton.*


Scirpus fluviatilis. River bulrush. Occasional in marshes and moist ground.*

Scirpus maritimus var. paludosus. Prairie bulrush. Relatively common near water, especially along rivers and streams.

Scirpus pallidus. Pale bulrush. Occasional in marshes and moist ground.


Hydrocharitaceae

Elodea canadensis. Waterweed. Uncommon in shallow water in streams; known from Lonergan Creek.

Iridaceae

Sisyrinchium montanum. Blue-eyed grass. Occasional in moist areas near streams.*

Juncaceae

Juncus balticus. Baltic rush. Occasional in moist places and marshes.

Juncus bufonius. Toad rush. Occasional on sandbars and riverbanks.

Juncus compressus Jacq. An introduced species recently collected by Ralph Brooks and Craig Freeman in a brushy, sandy area on the south side of the North Platte River west of Lake McConaughy and likely to be found in similar areas nearby. This plant is new to Nebraska and the Great Plains. [NEB]*

Juncus dudleyi. Dudley rush. Common in wet places, especially along streams.

Juncus interior. Inland rush. Occasional in wet places, known from along the north shore of Lake McConaughy and to be expected elsewhere. [NEB]

Juncus longistylis. Long styled rush. Uncommon in prairie meadows and moist places.*

Juncus nodosus. Knotted rush. Occasional on riverbanks and other moist areas.

Juncus torreyi. Torrey rush. Common along creeks, on sandbars, and in other moist areas.

Juncaginaceae

Triglochin maritimum var. elata. Arrowgrass. Known from moist low spots in prairie meadows south of the North Platte River in the extreme western part of the county.*

Lemnaceae

Lemna gibba. Duckweed. An infrequent floating aquatic; known from Whitetail Creek headwaters. [NEB]

Lemna minor. Duckweed. A very common floating aquatic.

Lemna perpusilla. Duckweed. An infrequent floating aquatic; known from Whitetail Creek headwaters.

Spirodela polyrrhiza. Greater duckweed. A locally common floating aquatic.*

Wolffia borealis. Watermeal. A locally common floating aquatic, usually found mixed with other Lemnaceae.*

Wolffia columbiana. Watermeal. A locally common floating aquatic, usually found mixed with other Lemnaceae.*

Liliaceae

Allium sativum. Garlic. Not common; probably persisting from cultivation.*
Allium textile. Wild onion.Occasional in prairie, including sandhills prairie.

Asparagus officinalis. Asparagus. Along roads and in floodplains, persisting from cultivation and perhaps spreading.*


Smilacina stellata. Spikenard. Common in moist, shaded to somewhat open ground on floodplain. (K)

Najadaceae

Najas flexilis. Naiad. In ponds and lakes; known from Martin Bay Pond.*


Poaceae

Aegilops cylindrica. Goatgrass. Locally common in waste ground.*

Agrohordeum macounii. Known from disturbed area near lake Ogallala; presumed to be a hybrid of Agropyron caninum subsp. majus and Hordeum jubatum. (K)*

Agropyron caninum subsp. majus. Slender wheatgrass. Occasional in moist ground.

Agropyron cristatum. Crested wheatgrass. Occasional along roads and in pastures.*

Agropyron elongatum. Tall wheatgrass. Occasional along roads.*

Agropyron repens. Quackgrass. Common in disturbed ground, often in ditches and wet places.*

Agropyron smithii. Western wheatgrass. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie, and in disturbed places. (K)*

Agrostis exarata subsp. minor. Spikebent. Rare, known from the bank of Whitetail Creek, north of Keystone. [NEB]

Agrostis hyemalis. Tickleglass. Occasional in low, moist ground.

Agrostis scabra. Tickleglass. Occasional in damp ground.*

Agrostis stolonifera. Redtop. Common in moist, low ground, especially in ditches.*

Alopecurus aequalis. Short-awn foxtail. Common at edges of streams and lakes, often in water.

Alopecurus arundinaceus. Creeping foxtail. Locally introduced. Known only from sandbars at the edge of the North Platte River north of Sarben. This species is new to Nebraska.*

Andropogon gerardii. Big bluestem. In prairie meadows and along roads, not usually growing where sandy.*

Andropogon hallii. Sand bluestem. Relatively common in sandhills prairie and in sandy soil. (K)

Andropogon saccharoides var. torreyanus. Silver bluestem. Rare in disturbed sites, known from south of Roscoe. [KANU]

Andropogon scoparius Michx. Little bluestem. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie. (K)*

Aristida purpurea var. longiseta. Fendler three-awn. Common in prairie. (K)

Aristida purpurea var. robusta. Red three-awn. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie, and often intergradient with var. longiseta. (K)

Avena fatua var. sativa. Oats. Occasional as a roadside waif.*

Bouteloua curtipendula. Sideoats grama. Common in prairies and along roadsides. (K)*

Bouteloua gracilis. Blue grama. Common in dry prairie (including sandhills prairie), also in waste ground. (K)

Bouteloua hirsuta. Hairy grama. Scattered in prairie (especially sandhills prairie), most often where sandy or rocky.


Bromus japonicus. Japanese brome. Common in pastures and prairies, especially where overgrazed. (K)

Bromus tectorum. Downy brome. Very common in waste and in pastures and prairies, especially where overgrazed. (K)*

Buchloe dactyloides. Buffalo grass. Common in upland prairie, seldom in sandhills prairie. (K)*

Calamagrostis stricta. Reedgrass. Uncommon, along streams.

Calamovilfa longifolia. Sand reedgrass. Common in sand prairie and other sandy places. (K)

Catabrosa aquatica. Brookgrass. Occasional in cold, running water.

Cenchrus longispinus. Sandbur. Common in waste ground. (K)*

Chloris verticillata. Windmill grass. Occasional in waste ground.*

Dactylis glomerata. Orchard grass. Occasional in low ground, pastures, and disturbed areas.*

Dichanthelium acuminatum var. acuminatum. Dichanthelium. Relatively uncommon, known from disturbed ground near the North Platte River, but to be expected in a variety of habitats.

Dichanthelium oligosanthes var. scribnerianum. Scribner dichanthelium. Scattered in dry prairie, including sandhills prairie, and in disturbed ground.*

Digitaria sanguinalis. Hairy crabgrass. In disturbed ground.*

Distichlis spicata var. stricta. Saltgrass. In saline moist areas and along roadsides where moist or dry.
Echinochloa crusgalli. Barnyard grass. Common in waste ground and wet areas.*


Elymus canadensis. Canada wild rye. Occasional in prairies and along roads.

Elymus virginicus. Virginia wild rye. Occasional in prairies and along roads.

Eragrostis cf. barrelieri. Mediterranean lovegrass. Rare ruderal along road at Ogallala airport. (S)*


Eragrostis hypnoides. Teal lovegrass. Occasional on sandy riverbanks and sandbars.

Eragrostis minor. Little lovegrass. Occasional in waste ground, especially in pavement cracks and compacted ground of parking lots; also known from a gravel bar in the North Platte River.*

Eragrostis pectinacea. Carolina lovegrass. Common in waste ground, especially in pavement cracks and compacted ground of parking lots, also in damp sandy ground along riverbanks and sandbars.

Eragrostis spectabilis. Purple lovegrass. Occasional in dry to moist pastures and roadsides and disturbed areas.*

Eragrostis trichodes. Sand lovegrass. Relatively common in sandhills prairie or in other sandy places.

Festuca arundinacea. Tall fescue. Occasional along roads and in pastures and lawns.

Festuca octoflora. Sixweeks fescue. Very common in prairies, pastures and disturbed places. (K)

Glyceria striata. Hitchc. Fowl mannagrass. Occasional in or near water.*

Hordeum jubatum. Foxtail barley. Very common along roads and in waste ground.

Hordeum pusillum. Little barley. Occasional in disturbed ground, prairie, including sandhills prairie. (K)*

Koeleria pyramidata. Junegrass. Common in prairie, including sandhills prairie. (K)

Leersia oryzoides. Rice cutgrass. Occasional in moist ground, near water.*

Leptochloa fascicularis. Bearded sprangletop. Common in disturbed ground along roads and streams.

Muhlenbergia asperifolia. Scratchgrass. Occasional in low, moist ground.

Muhlenbergia cuspidata. Plains muhly. Common in prairie. (K)

Muhlenbergia frondosa. Wirestem muhly. Occasional in canyons, floodplain woods, in marshy ground, and at woodland edges.*

Muhlenbergia mexicana. Wirestem muhly. Occasional in canyons, floodplain woods, and at woodland edges.*

Muhlenbergia pungens. Blowout grass. Occasional in loose sand, often in blowouts or washouts in sandhills prairie.*

Muhlenbergia racemosa. Marsh muhly. Occasional in open woods and disturbed, low ground.*

Munroa squarrosa. False buffalo grass. Occasional in disturbed, dry ground. (K)

Oryzopsis hymenoides. Indian ricegrass. Occasional in sandy soil and sandhills prairie.

Oryzopsis microanth. Little-seed ricegrass. Common in woods, especially under juniper. (K)


Panicum dichotomiflorum. Fall panicum. An occasional ruderal in disturbed ground.*

Panicum virgatum. Switchgrass. Common in low ground. (K)

Paspalum setaceum var. stramineum. Paspalum. Occasional in sandy soil and disturbed ground. (K)*

Phalaris arundinacea. Reed canary grass. Occasional in low ground, often near water.*

Phleum pratense. Timothy. Occasional in low ground especially where disturbed.*

Phragmites australis. Common reed. Common in low ground along rivers and streams or in marshes.

Poa arida. Alkali bluegrass. Uncommon in low ground along rivers and streams or in marshes.

Poa compressa. Canada bluegrass. Occasional along roads, in disturbed ground, and on gravel bars in sun or shade.*

Poa palustris. Fowl bluegrass. Occasional in damp ground.*

Poa pratensis. Kentucky bluegrass. Common on roadsides and in pastures, woods, and lawns.

Polypogon interruptus. Rare along streams, known only from a canyon just west of Cedar Point Biological Station otherwise unknown from Nebraska or the Great Plains. (S)*

Polypogon monspeliensis. Rabbitfoot grass. Common along streams and in ditches.

Puccinellia distans. Alkali-grass. Introduced in sandy shore at Lake Ogallala; not common. (S)*

Puccinellia nuttalliana. Alkali-grass. Occasional on sandbars and in other sandy, wet places.*

Redfieldia flexuosa. Blowout grass. Occasional in loose sand, especially in blowouts or washouts in sandhills prairie.*

Schedonnardus paniculatus. Tumblegrass. Relatively common in dry, disturbed areas and in waste ground.*

Secale cereale. Rye. Cultivated and sometimes persisting in fields and along roads.*
**Setaria faberi.** Chinese foxtail. Uncommon in disturbed ground. (S)*

**Setaria glauca.** Yellow foxtail. Common in disturbed ground.*

**Setaria viridis.** Green foxtail. Common in disturbed ground.

**Sitanion hystrix var. brevifolium.** Squirreltail. Occasional in dry prairie, including sandhills prairie, and along roads. (K)*

**Sorghastrum nutans.** Indian grass. Occasional in prairie (including sandhills prairie), prairie meadows, and along roads.

**Spartina gracilis.** Alkali cordgrass. Uncommon in alkaline meadows.*

**Spartina pectinata.** Cordgrass. Locally common in moist, low ground.

**Sphenopholis obtusata var. obtusata.** Wedgegrass. Occasional in wet meadows and low places.

**Sporobolus airoides.** Alkali sacaton. Occasional in low ground and alkaline meadows.*

**Sporobolus asper var. asper.** Rough dropseed. Known from gravel flats east of the mouth of Whitetail Creek.

**Sporobolus cryptandrus.** Sand dropseed. Common in sandy ground.

**Stipa comata.** Needle-and-thread. Very common in prairie. (K)

**Stipa viridula.** Green needlegrass. In prairie and along road sides. (K)*

**Triplasis purpurea.** Sandgrass. Occasional in sandy, disturbed ground. (K)

**Potamogetonaceae**

**Potamogeton crispus.** Curly muckweed. A submerged aquatic. (S)*

**Potamogeton filiformis.** Slender pondweed. A relatively common submerged aquatic.*

**Potamogeton foliosus.** Leafy pondweed. A relatively common submerged aquatic.

**Potamogeton friesei.** Fries' pondweed. An uncommon submerged aquatic. (S)*

**Potamogeton pectinatus.** Sago podweed. Submerged in shallow water; very common.*

**Potamogeton pusillus.** Baby pondweed. Submerged in shallow water; occasional.*

**Potamogeton richardsonii.** Clasping leaf pondweed. A relatively common submerged aquatic. (S)*

**Sparganiaceae**

**Sparganium eurycarpum.** Bur-reed. Occasional in marshes and along streams.

**Typhaceae**

**Typha angustifolia.** Narrow-leaved cat-tail. Common in marshes. The hybrid between *T. angustifolia* and *T. latifolia* (*T. x glauca*) also occurs occasionally.

**Zannichelliaceae**

**Zannichellia palustris.** Horned pondweed. Submerged in ponds, streams, and lakes.