

## **WILDFLOWERS OF THE TALLGRASS PRAIRIE**

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*Abstract:* Originally published in 1989 by Iowa State University Press, the classic nature guide *Wildflowers of the Tallgrass Prairie* has introduced many naturalists and prairie enthusiasts to the beauty and diversity of the native plants in the prairie biome that once stretched from Manitoba to Texas. In 2009 the University of Iowa Press published the second edition of *Wildflowers of the Tallgrass Prairie*. All the photographs were replaced with new images, and two misidentifications were corrected. The nomenclature was updated to reflect the taxonomy used in the *Flora of North America North of Mexico* for all the families published by 2008. Nomenclature for the remaining families follows that used in the *Flora of Nebraska*, the most recent Midwestern flora available. The original text by Sylvan Runkel and Dean Roosa was preserved (excepting for minor corrections in grammar and spelling). Runkel, the ethnobotanist, naturalist, and teacher, and Roosa the ecologist and botanist, combined their expertise to produce species' narratives that fascinate readers with information covering descriptive plant morphology, habitat preferences, flower and fruit phenology, distribution, Native American and pioneer uses, and ecology. The guide presents 129 plant species/genera (including 2 non-native species) mainly found on tallgrass prairie, but also in savannas and the drier mid-grass and short grass prairies. This presentation will provide an overview of the book by highlighting some of the species in the guide.