

# prairie coreopsis

## *Coreopsis palmata*

### FEATURES

Prairie coreopsis is also known as stiff coreopsis or stiff tickseed. This perennial herb has stiff, three-lobed leaves that resemble a bird's foot. The leaves are arranged opposite each other on the stem. Each sessile leaf may be up to three inches long. Flower heads are one to two inches wide. Both disk (fertile) and ray (sterile) flowers are present. The eight, bright yellow rays are each toothed at the tip. The one-seeded fruit is dry and hard. Prairie coreopsis may attain a height of one to three feet.

### BEHAVIORS

Prairie coreopsis may be found statewide in Illinois, although it is more commonly seen in the northern two-thirds of the state. It grows in dry and moist prairies and open woods. Flowers are produced from June through July. The flowers can be used to produce a yellow dye for wool. The fruits are used by some wildlife species as a source of food.

### TAXONOMY

Kingdom: Plantae  
Division: Magnoliophyta  
Class: Magnoliopsida  
Order: Asterales  
Family: Asteraceae

### ILLINOIS STATUS

common, native

### ILLINOIS RANGE





### **Aquatic Habitats**

bottomland forests; peatlands; wet prairies and fens

### **Woodland Habitats**

bottomland forests; coniferous forests; southern Illinois lowlands;  
upland deciduous forests

### **Prairie and Edge Habitats**

black soil prairie; gravel prairie; hill prairie; sand prairie