

## wild petunia *Ruellia humilis*

Kingdom: Plantae

Division/Phylum: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Scrophulariales

Family: Acanthaceae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

### FEATURES

Wild petunia is also known as hairy petunia. This perennial herb has leaves in an opposite arrangement on the stem. The hairy leaves are oval-shaped, sessile and about two and three-fourths inches long. Flowers develop in clusters or singly in the leaf axils. The five petals are fused to make a tubelike flower. Each purple or blue flower may be as much as two inches long. Wild petunia may attain a height of two to two and one-half feet.

### BEHAVIORS

Wild petunia may be found statewide in Illinois. It grows in prairies, dry woods and on bluffs. Flowers are produced from May through October.

### HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

none

Woodland Habitats

upland deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

black soil prairie; hill prairie

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