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For information on the
National Wildlife Refuge System
1 800/344-WILD

September 2004

Indian Paintbrush
Photograph by Robert C. Brown



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Aransas

National Wildlife Refuge

Wildflowers



Wildflowers of Aransas National Wildlife Refuge

This list contains over 700 plant species found on Aransas National Wildlife Refuge. Ringed by tidal marshes and broken by long, narrow sloughs, this 59,000-acre refuge sprawls mostly across the Blackjack peninsula, where grasslands, live oaks, and redbay thickets cover deep, sandy soils.

Storms and waters of the Gulf of Mexico constantly shape this vital refuge. Whooping cranes join throngs of other migratory birds that settle on tidal marshes stretching before them like huge banquet tables. Strong winds push the bay waters over low-lying shores, forming fertile, brackish tidal marshes among short, salt-tolerant plants.

Mild winters, bay waters, and abundant food provide a winning combination for water-loving birds. The information in this checklist is current as of May 1, 2004.

How to use this checklist

Abundance

- C Common: suitable habitat is widespread
- U Uncommon: present, but in moderate numbers
- O Occasional: may be present in small numbers
- R Rare: present, difficult to find

Habitat

- Bt Big Tree Trail
- Bw Boardwalk
- Dp Dagger Point Trail
- En Entrance (FM 2040)
- Hf Heron Flats Trail
- Hl Hog Lake
- Hq Headquarters
- Jl Jones Lake
- Ot Observation Tower
- Pa Picnic Area
- Rt Rail Trail
- Tl Tour Loop
- Tr Tower Road
- Yt Youth Environmental
Training Area Training Area



Blue Dayflower

FWS Photograph

Species	Sp	S	F	W	Hbt
Blue Flowers					
Baby blue eyes <i>Nemophila phacelioides</i>	U				Hf Hq
Blue Curls <i>Phacelia congesta</i>	U				Hf
Carolina larkspur <i>Delphinium carolinianum</i>	O				Pa
Dayflower <i>Commelina erecta</i>	C	C	C	O	Tr
Dotted blue-eyed grass <i>Sisyrinchium langloisii</i>	U				Hf Tl Tr
Downy lobelia <i>Lobelia puberula</i>	O	O			Hf Hq Tr
Sandyland bluebonnet <i>Lupinus subcarnosus</i>	R				Hf Tr
Texas bluebonnet <i>Lupinus texensis</i>	R				Hf
Purple Flowers					
Basket flower <i>Centaurea americana</i>	U	U			Tr
Bluebell <i>Eustoma russellianum</i>	O	O			Hf
Meadow aster <i>Aster pratensis</i>	U	U			Tr
Bull thistle <i>Cirsium horridulum</i>	U	U			Pa Tr
Butterfly pea <i>Centrosema virginianum</i>	C	C	U		Hf Tr
California (purple) loosestrife <i>Lythrum californicum</i>	O	C	U		Tl

Species	Sp	S	F	W	Hbt
Purple Flowers , continued					
Florida bluehearts	O	O	O		Tl
<i>Buchnera americana</i>					
Hairy-flowered spiderwort	U	O			Hq Tr
<i>Tradescantia hirsutiflora</i>					
Herbertia (prairie-nymph)	U				Hf
<i>Herbertia lahue</i>					
Lance-leaf loosestrife	U	U			Tr
<i>Lythrum alatum</i>					
Narrowleaf dyschoriste			R	R	Hf
<i>Dyschoriste linearis</i>					
Phacelia					
<i>Phacelia congestra</i>					
Passionflower	O	O			Hf Hl
<i>Passiflora incarnata</i>					
Prairie bluet	C	C	U		Hf
<i>Hedyotis nigricans</i>					
Prairie spiderwort	U	O			Hq Tr
<i>Tradescantia occidentalis</i>					
Purple phacelia	U				Hf Hq
<i>Phacelia patuliflora</i>					
Purple pleatleaf	O	O			Tl Tr
<i>Alophia drummondii</i>					
Saltmarsh morning glory		O	O		Tr
<i>Ipomoea sagittata</i>					
Shaggy portulaca	O	O			Hq
<i>Portulaca pilosa</i>					
Sharp gayfeather			U		Dp Tr
<i>Liatris acidota</i>					
Silver-leaf nightshade			O		Hq
<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>					
Snapdragon vine	U	U	U		Hf
<i>Maurandya antirrhiniflora</i>					
Stemless spiderwort	U				Hf Hq Tr
<i>Tradscantia subacaulis</i>					
Texas thistle	U	U			Tr
<i>Cirsium texanum</i>					
Tie vine	U	U			Hf
<i>Ipomea cordatotriloba</i>					
Venus looking glass	U				Hf
<i>Triodanis perfoliata</i>					
Vetch	U				Hf Hq
<i>Vicia leavenworthii</i>					
Violet ruellia		U	O		Tr
<i>Ruellia nudiflora</i>					
Wild petunia	C	U	O		Tl
<i>Ruellia yucatana</i>					
Wine cup	U				Hq
<i>Callirhoe involucrata</i>					

Species	Sp	S	F	W	Hbt
Lavender Flowers					
Annual sundew <i>Drosera annua</i>	O				Tl Tr
Coast mistflower <i>Conoclinium coelestinum</i>		C	C	U	Hf Tr
Drummond phlox <i>Phlox drummondii</i>	C	U			Hf Tr
Drummond skullcap <i>Scutellaria drummondii</i>	C				HR Tr
Eggleaf skullcap <i>Scutellaria ovata</i>	U				Hf
Fragrant boneset <i>Chromolaena odorata</i>	O	O	O		Ot
Texas vervain <i>Verbena halei</i>	C	C	C	C	Tl Tr
Toadflax <i>Nuttallanthus texanus</i>	U				Hf Pa
Sandbell <i>Nama hispidum</i>	U	U	O		Hf
Sea lavender <i>Limonium carolinianum</i>	U	U	U		Bw Hf
White Flowers					
Arrowleaf <i>Sagittaria longiloba</i>	O	O			Tr
Buckwheat <i>Eriogonum multiflorum</i>			C	O	Tr
Bullnettle <i>Cnidoscolus texanus</i>	U	U			En Pa Tl
Burhead <i>Echinodorus rostratus</i>			U	U	Hl Jl Tl
Buttonbush <i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	U	U			Hl Jl Tr
Catchfly <i>Silene antirrhina</i>	R				Hf
Chickweed <i>Stellaria media</i>	U				Hf
Climbing hempweed <i>Mikania scandens</i>		O	O		Tr
Coast germander <i>Teucrium cubense</i>	U	U	U	U	Hf



Texas Thistle
FWS Photograph

Species	Sp	S	F	W	Hbt
White Flowers , continued					
Delta arrowleaf <i>Sagittaria platyphylla</i>	U	U	U		Jl
Southern dewberry <i>Rubus trivialis</i>	C				Hf
Dodder <i>Cuscuta</i> sp.		U	U		Hf
Drummond rain lily <i>Cooperia drummondii</i>	U	O			Tr
False-garlic (crow poison) <i>Nothoscordum bivalve</i>	C	U	U		Hf Tr Tl Hq
Fleabane daisy <i>Erigeron procumbens</i>	C	U			Hf Tr
Frostweed <i>Verbesina virginica</i>			U		Hf Hq Tr
Green milkweed <i>Asclepias viridis</i>	O	C	U		Hq Pa Tl Tr
Green lily <i>Schoenocaulon drummondii</i>	U		U		Hf
Heart-leaf euphorbia <i>Euphorbia cordifolia</i>	C	C	U		Hf Yt
Heath aster <i>Aster ericoides</i>			C		Tr
Hedge bindweed <i>Calystegia sepium</i>		O			Hf
Hoary pea (multi-bloom tephrosia) <i>Tephrosia onobrychoides</i>	U	U			Tr Tl
Late-flowering boneset <i>Eupatorium serotinum</i>		U	U		Hf
Lazy daisy <i>Aphanostephus skirrhobasis</i>	C	C			Hf Hq Tr
Old man's beard (Texas virgin's bower) <i>Clematis drummondii</i>	O	O			Hf
Peppergrass <i>Lepidium virginicum</i>	U				Hf Hq
Philadelphia daisy (whitetop) <i>Erigeron philadelphicus</i>	U				Tr
Pokeweed <i>Phytolacca americana</i>	R				Hq
Rattlesnake master <i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>	U				Tl
Rattlesnake weed <i>Daucus pusillus</i>	U				Hf Jl Tl
Saltmarsh aster <i>Aster subulatus</i>			U	U	Tr Tl
Seaside heliotrope <i>Heliotropium curassavicum</i>	U	U	U		Bw

Spider Lily
 Photograph by
 Robert C. Brown



Species	Sp	S	F	W	Hbt
White Flowers , continued					
Snake-cotton <i>Froelichia floridana</i>	O	O			Hf Tr
Snow-on-the-prairie <i>Euphorbia bicolor</i>		U	U		Tr
Spider lily <i>Hymenocallis liriosme</i>	O				Pa Tl
Spiny aster <i>Chloracantha spinosa</i>		O	O		Hf Tr Tl Bw
Spring ladies tresses <i>Spiranthes vernalis</i>	O			O	Tl Hl
Texas bindweed <i>Convolvulus equitans</i>		O	O		Tr Hf
Texas bull nettle <i>Cnidocolus texanus</i>	U	U			En Pa Tl
Texas nightshade (Tomatillo) <i>Solanum triquetrum</i>	U	U	U	U	Hf
Tooth frogfruit <i>Phyla nodiflora</i>	U	C	C	U	Tl Tr
Tropical mexicanclover <i>Richardia brasiliensis</i>	U	U	U		Dp Jl
White gaura <i>Gaura lindheimeri</i>	U	U			Hf
White prickly poppy <i>Argemone albiflora</i>	U	C	U		Hq Tl
Wild onion <i>Allium canadense</i>	U				Hf
Wild tobacco (fiddle-leaf tobacco) <i>Nicotiana repanda</i>	O	O			Tl
Windflower (ten-petal anemone) <i>Anemone berlandieri</i>	U				Hf Tr

Species	Sp	S	F	W	Hbt	
Red Flowers						
Bracted sida <i>Sida ciliaris</i>	U	U	U		Hf Tr	
Cardinal feather <i>Acalypha radicans</i>	U	U	U	O	Hf Tr Pa	
Coral bean <i>Erythrina herbacea</i>	O				Hf Tr	
Indian blanket <i>Gaillardia pulchella</i>	U	C	C	U	Hq Hf Tr	
Indian paintbrush <i>Castilleja indivisa</i>	U				Tr Hq	
Roundleaf scurfpea <i>Pediomelum rhombifolium</i>	O				Hq	
Scarlet pea <i>Indigofera miniata</i>	O	U	U		Hf Pa Tr	
Scarlet pimpernel <i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	U				Hf Tr	
Trumpet-creeper <i>Campsis radicans</i>			R		Hf	
Turk's cap <i>Malvaviscus arboreus</i>	O	U	U		Hf Tr Hq	
Wooley globemallow (cowboy's delight) <i>Sphaeralcea lindheimeri</i>			O	O	Hq	
Pink Flowers						
American germander <i>Teucrium canadense</i>			U	U	U	Tr Hq
Curlltop smartweed <i>Polygonum lapathifolium</i>	O	O	O		Hf	
Drummond wild onion <i>Allium drummondii</i>	U				Hf Tr	
Grass pink (buckley centaury) <i>Centaureum calycosum</i>	U				Hf	
Marsh fleabane <i>Pluchea odorata</i>	O	U	U	U	Hf JI	
Meadow pink <i>Sabatia campestris</i>	U				Hf	
Pink evening primrose <i>Oenothera speciosa</i>	U				Hf Tr	
Pink mint <i>Stachys drummondii</i>	O				Hf	
Powderpuff <i>Mimosa strigillosa</i>	U	U			Hf Tr	
Rose palfoxia <i>Palafoxia rosea</i>				U	O	Tr
Rougeberry (baby-peppers) <i>Rivina humilis</i>	U	U	U		Hf	
Salt-marsh mallow <i>Kosteletzkya virginica</i>			O	O	Hf Tr	
Spiderflower <i>Cleome gynandra</i>	O	O			Hq	

Species	Sp	S	F	W	Hbt
Yellow Flowers					
Balsam gourd (balsam apple)	O	O			Hf
<i>Ibervillea lindheimeri</i>					
Bitterweed		O	O		Tr
<i>Helenium amarum</i>					
Blackeye evening primrose (square-bud day primrose)	U	U			Hf Tr
<i>Calylophus berlandieri</i>					
Bladderwort	O				Tr
<i>Calylophus berlandieri</i>					
Brown-eyed susan	U	C			Tr
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>					
Butterweed	U				Tl
<i>Senecio tampicanus</i>					
Camphor daisy	U	U	U	U	Bw
<i>Machaeranthera phyllocephala</i>					
Camphorweed		U	U		Tr
<i>Heterotheca subaxilaris</i>					
Coast sunflower		C			En
<i>Helianthus debilis</i>					
Coffee senna	O	O			Hq
<i>Senna occidentalis</i>					
Common broomweed		C	U		Tr
<i>Amphiachyris dracunculoides</i>					
Common evening primrose	U				Hf Tr
<i>Oenothera grandis</i>					
Commonlantana		O	O		Hf Hq Tr
<i>Lantana horrida</i>					
Common sunflower		U	U		Pa
<i>Helianthus annuus</i>					
Cowpen daisy (golden crownbeard)	U	U	U	U	Hq
<i>Verbesina encelioides</i>					



Plains Coreopsis
Photograph by Tom V. Stehn

Species	Sp	S	F	W	Hbt
Yellow Flowers , continued					
Cut-leaf evening primrose <i>Oenothera laciniata</i>	U	U			Hf Hq
False dandelion <i>Pyrhopappus carolinianus</i>	U				Hq Tl
Fragrant goldenrod <i>Solidago odora</i>			U		Tl
Goldenmane coreopsis (Tickseed) <i>Coreopsis basalis</i>	C	U			Hq Tl
Greenthread <i>Thelesperma filifolium</i>	U	U	U	U	Hf
Groundsel <i>Senecio ampullaceus</i>	O				Hf Bw
Hairy carpetweed <i>Kallstroemia hirsutissima</i>		O			Hq
Least snout bean <i>Rhynchosia minima</i>		C			Hf
Lemon paintbrush <i>Castilleja purpurea</i>	R				Tr
Medic (southern corydalis) <i>Corydalis micrantha</i>	O				Hq
Mexican hat <i>Ratibida columnifera</i>	U	C	U		Hf Tr
Partridge pea <i>Chamaecrista fasciculata</i>		C	U	U	Hf Tl
Plains coreopsis <i>Coreopsis tinctoria</i>	C	U			Hf
Prairie goldenrod <i>Euthamia gymnospermoides</i>			U		Tl Tr
Prickly sowthistle <i>Sonchus asper</i>	U	U	U	U	Hf
Puccoon <i>Lithospermum incisum</i>	O				Pa
Queen's delight <i>Stillingia sylvatica</i>	O				Tl
Rattlebush <i>Sesbania drummondii</i>	O	U			Hl Jl Tr
Rosinwood <i>Silphium gracile</i>	O	U			Tr
Savannah milkweed <i>Asclepias oenotheroides</i>	U	U	O		Tr
Scratch daisy <i>Croptilon divaricatum</i>		U			Hf Tl Tr
Sea ox-eye <i>Borrchia frutescens</i>	U	U	U	U	Bw Hf Ot
Seacoast goldenrod <i>Solidago sempervirens</i>			U		Hf Tl
Silkgrass <i>Pityopsis graminifolia</i>	O	U			Tr

Species	Sp	S	F	W	Hbt
Yellow Flowers , continued					
Silver-leaf sunflower <i>Helianthus agrophyllus</i>		C			En
Soft camphorweed <i>Chrysopsis pilosa</i>			U	U	Tr Tl
Sour clover <i>Melilotus indicus</i>	O	U			Hq Pa
Spotted horsemint <i>Monarda punctata</i>	U	C	U		Tr
Stiffstem flax <i>Linum berlandieri</i>	U	U			Hf Tr
Tall goldenrod <i>Solidago canadensis</i>			O		Tr
Texas prickly pear <i>Opuntia engelmannii</i>	U				Hf
Wild indigo <i>Baptisia bracteata</i>	U				Tl
Yellow clammyweed <i>Polanisia erosa</i>	O	O			Dp
Yellow woodsorrel <i>Oxalis dillenii</i>	U	U	U		Hf Hq

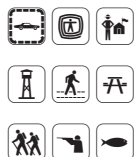
Notice

Please do not pick wildflowers. If you should find an unlisted or “rare” species, or a species not listed for a particular habitat, contact the refuge staff and provide a description. We welcome any additions visitors may provide to enhance the accuracy of this checklist.

Source Information

Most of the information supplied in this checklist is from *An Annotated List of the Plants of the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge* by Dr. Wayne H. McAlister.

Suggested reference books include: *Texas Wildflowers* by Campbell and Lynn Loughmiller, *Wildflowers of Texas* by Geyata Ajilvsgi, and, *Wildflowers of the United States* by Harold William Rickett.



Other activities that may be enjoyed at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge include wildlife observation, hunting, fishing, photography, environmental education. Stop in at the Claude L. Lard Visitor Center for further information and activities.