

Plant Name: Illinois Bundleflower

Scientific name: *Desmanthus illinoensis*

Short Description:

Illinois bundleflower is a native warm-season perennial leguminous forb with a unique fern-like appearance.

Description:

Illinois bundleflower is a native warm-season perennial leguminous forb adapted to the central and eastern regions of the United States extending from Mexico into Canada. Illinois bundleflower is found in prairie remnants, sloughs, woodland edges, or disturbed areas. It does best on medium textured soils, but will grow on a wide range of soils with an annual rainfall range of 16 to 32 inches. The seeds are readily consumed by upland game birds and the plant is highly palatable livestock and deer. Illinois bundleflower is an attractive plant in the landscape because of its unique fern appearance and the closing and opening of the leaves in response to sunlight and heat.

Use:

Landscape: attractive in mass plantings as well as in species mixes

Wildlife: seed is a food source; insect attractant and cover for game birds

Livestock: highly palatable and nutritious legume

Taxonomic Classification:

Illinois Bundleflower

Kingdom	Plantae
Subkingdom	Tracheobionta
Superdivision	Spermatophyta
Division	Magnoliophyta
Class	Magnoliopsida
Subclass	Asteridae
Order	Asterales
Family	Asteraceae
Genus	<i>Desmanthus</i>
Species	<i>Desmanthus illinoensis</i>



Plant Characteristics:

Height:	18 to 48 inches
Growth habit:	multiple stems from a central crown
Bloom color:	white globe shaped flowers
Bloom period:	late spring and early summer
Sun requirement:	full sun
Leaf foliage color:	green fern-like appearance
Seeds per pound:	85,000
Minimum soil temperature for germination:	65 degrees F
Soil pH range:	5.5 to 8.0
Planting Rate:	4 oz/1000 or 10 lbs/acre
Planting Depth:	½ inch
Planting season:	spring; fall