



#### Caption

Prairie Dock

*Silphium terebinthinaceum*

This plant has a vase-like circle of spade-shaped, large leaves with a thick sandpaper-like texture. A green or red naked flowering stalk grows from the plant base. The upper part of the stalk divides gracefully into a loose, branching cluster of sunflower-like yellow flowers that bloom from late summer to early fall. Its taproot grows to about 12 inches deep.

The flowers attract honeybees, bumblebees, and the Ruby-Throated Hummingbird. Goldfinches eat the seeds. The coarse sandpaper-like leaves are not attractive to Cottontail Rabbits.

#### Resources

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=f590>

[http://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/pr\\_dockx.htm](http://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/pr_dockx.htm)

[https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id\\_plant=SITE](https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SITE)