

Homework #2 Answer Key

What are some traits of the Poaceae Family?

- Leaves are in 2 ranks
- Stems have 'knobby knees'
- Stems are round to flat

What native plants would you expect to find blooming in abundance in a 2-year-old CRP planting?

- Black-eyed Susan
- Yellow Coneflower

What are the differences between sedges and grasses?

- Sedges: have edges, Cyperaceae family, leaves in 3 ranks
- Grasses: have round or flat stems, knobby knees, Poaceae family

How would you classify this flower (Butterfly Milkweed) using Newcomb's Wildflower Guide?

- 5 Regular parts



What are the main characteristics between annual weeds and perennial plants?

- Annual weeds: only live for 1 year, when doing the annual test, they typically emerge with an entire root system.
- Perennial plants: live for 2+ years, during the annual test their roots will break so when they emerge you are able to see if they were connected by a ramet or lack fine root structures (because they are still in the ground).

What easy characteristics can be used to identify smooth brome?

- M shaped indentation on the leaf blade

What does CRP stand for?

- Conservation Reserve Program
-

What can you expect to see in a first year CRP planting?

- Annual weeds and some small prairie seedlings

Counties in Iowa can participate in programs that assist them in planting natives in the right of way.

- True

Describe this flower using botanical terminology?

- A thimble-shaped flower head $\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long at the top of the stem, the flowers blooming from the bottom of the spike up. Tiny 5-petaled purple flowers (could sometimes be described as indistinguishable) with yellow-tipped stamens are densely packed around the cone. The calyx holding the flower is woolly, dull gray, and easily visible in the upper spike where flowers have not yet bloomed.

