



## columbine

*Aquilegia canadensis*

Kingdom: Plantae  
Division/Phylum: Anthophyta  
Class:  
Order:  
Family:

### FEATURES

The columbine is a perennial plant that grows from thick roots. Its upright, branched stems may be two feet tall. The basal leaves are doubly compounded, with the leaflets smooth or slightly hairy. The leaves on the upper stems are divided and do not have stalks. Flowers are borne in racemes at the tip of the stem. Each flower may be two and one-half inches long on a slender stalk. The five petals are projected backwards into five hollow spurs which are red outside and yellow inside. The fruit consists of a cluster of five follicles with slender beaks.

### BEHAVIORS

The columbine may be found statewide in Illinois. This plant grows in rocky woods. The columbine flowers from mid-April to July.

### HABITATS

- bottomland forests
- coniferous forest
- southern Illinois lowlands
- upland deciduous forest

### ILLINOIS STATUS

- common
- endangered
- threatened
- native
- exotic

### ILLINOIS RANGE

Permanent resident: statewide

Summer resident:

Migrant:

Winter resident:

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

Illinois Department of Natural Resources. 1999.  
Biodiversity of Illinois, Volume 2: Woodland Habitats CD-ROM.