



## 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.

## violet wood-sorrel

*Oxalis violacea*

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

## FEATURES

The violet wood-sorrel is also known as purple oxalis. This perennial plant has upright, smooth stems that grow to about eight inches tall. Its leaves grow from the base of the plant and have three leaflets, each notched at the tip. The leaflet may have a heart-shaped appearance. Leaves may appear purple and are often creased in the center. Flowers are produced on their own stalk, which is longer than the leaf stalks. Each five-petaled, pink-purple flower is about one inch wide. The fruit is a small capsule (less than one-fourth inch in length) with several seeds.

## BEHAVIORS

The violet wood-sorrel may be found statewide in Illinois. It grows in woods, bluffs and prairies. Flowers are produced from April through June.

## HABITATS

bottomland forests  
 coniferous forest  
 southern Illinois lowlands  
 upland deciduous forest