



## 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.

## shooting star

*Dodecatheon meadia*

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

## FEATURES

The shooting star is a perennial plant with no leaf-bearing stem. It has basal leaves that may grow to 12 inches long and four inches wide. The flowers are produced at the tip of a leafless stalk. Each flower may be up to one and one-third inches long. The five white-to-pale purple petals on the flowers are turned backward. The five stamens meet at the tip to form a pointed beak. The fruit is a capsule, about three-fourths inch long, that splits into five parts at the tip.

## BEHAVIORS

The shooting star may be found statewide in Illinois. It grows in woods, bluffs, meadows and prairies. Flowers are produced from April through June.

## HABITATS

bottomland forests  
 coniferous forest  
 southern Illinois lowlands  
 upland deciduous forest