

***Parthenium integrifolium* – Wild Quinine**

COMMON NAME: Wild Quinine

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Parthenium integrifolium* – from Greek *parthenos* for “virgin” and *integrifolium* for the “undivided leaf”

FLOWER: Dense flat-topped clusters of white flowers about ¼ inch in size

BLOOMING PERIOD: July to September

SIZE: 20 to 40 inches tall

BEHAVIOR: Forms clumps.

SITE REQUIREMENTS: Full sunlight to partial shade, in dry to moist prairie settings and in oak woods.

NATURAL RANGE: Eastern U.S. from New York west to the southeast corner of Minnesota, south to Georgia, Alabama, west to Texas. In Wisconsin it is mostly in the southern counties from Dane County west. It is listed as “threatened” in Wisconsin.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Aromatic leaves, lovely flowers that add an interesting accent in mid-summer. The flowers fade to interesting seed heads that can be used in dried flower arrangements. Native Americans used the roots to make a diuretic tea and the leaves were used to make a poultice for burns. During World War I this plant was used as a substitute source of quinine.

SUGGESTED CARE: After getting it established, little care is needed.

COMPANION PLANTS: Prairie coneflower, mountain mint, compass plant, common milkweed, sawtooth sunflower and other wet-mesic prairie plants