Coefficients of Conservatism - A coefficient of conservatism (C) is used as a weighted index along with the Floristic Quality Index (FQI) to provide repeatable measures for conservation/restoration goals. It is an integer ranging from 0 to 10 assigned to each taxon in a regional flora that estimates the fidelity of a species to natural areas (non-native species or ruderal species are assigned 0 or low values, respectively; species known primarily from natural areas are assigned higher values). A low C value for a species indicates an adaptability to disturbed areas and a more widespread distribution. A high C value for a species indicates a more specialized natural habitat is needed.

**Selected Flora of Orland Grassland with Coefficients of Conservatism**

Marnie Baker, Volunteer Steward, Orland Grassland FPCC; Illinois Master Naturalist

Photos by: John Hilty, illinoiswildflowers.info. Orland Grassland is part of the Forest Preserves of Cook County. Input from: Kris DaPra. Produced by Marnie Baker marnie.baker@gmail.com and Alicia Diaz, Field Museum.

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