

Petalostemum candidum
WHITE PRAIRIE CLOVER (Lily Family)

in the Peacock Prairie at the *James Woodworth Prairie Preserve*



This native perennial plant is unbranched or sparsely branched in the upper half, and 1-2½' (20-76 cm) tall. The pale green central stem has light longitudinal lines. The alternate compound leaves are oddly pinnate, consisting of 3-9 pale green leaflets. Each leaflet is linear. The margins are smooth, and the underside of each leaflet has numerous translucent dots. Both the stems and leaves are hairless. There is a short cylindrical spike of white flowers at the terminus of the central stem and each of the major side stems. The small flowers form a wreath around the bottom of the spike, which moves upward as the season progresses. Each flower has 5 petals and 5 white stamens. The flowers often have a pleasant fragrance. The root system consists of a central taproot that can extend 5' into the ground. At the Peacock/Woodworth Prairie blooms about the 1st week of through the 4th week of July.