

# Purple Prairie Clover

*Dalea purpurea*

- General: Small, native, warm-season legume
- Height: 12-30"
- Bloom: Small purple flowers circle a dense cone-shaped spike 1 to 2 inches long held high above leaves. Flowers open from the bottom to the top of the spike. Blooms in early to mid summer.
- Leaves: pinnately compound with odd number of leaflets (3-9, usually 5). Each leaflet 1" long and 1/8" wide. Hairless.
- Habitat: Found throughout most of the United States. Prefers full sun with average to dry conditions (at least 15" annual precip). Tolerant of a wide variety of soil types. Very deep (6') taproot is slow to establish but drought tolerant.
- Faunal: Attracts honey bees, native bees, bumble bees. One MN study found no other prairie flower attracts as many bee species as PPC. Host to Dogface Butterfly larvae.

