## **DICHOTOMOUS KEY** FOR PLANT SPECIES PLANTED INTO THE BEST PLOTS

(can be used when plants not in flower)

	Description	Step
1a.	ls it a wildflower?	Go to 2
1b.	Is it a grass?	Go to 13
2a.	Does it have leaflets?	Go to 3
2b.	Does it have leaves entire?	Go to 5
3a.	Does it have a stipule at the base of its leaf?	Go to 4
3b.	Is there no stipule at the base of its leaf?	White False Indigo
4a.	Does it have a stipule at the base of its leaflet?	Showy ticktrefoil
4b.	Is there no stipule at the base of its leaflet?	Roundhead lespedeza
5a.	Are the leaf edges smooth throughout?	Go to 6
5b.	Are the leaf edges toothed?	Go to 7
6a.	Does the leaf clasp or wrap around the stem?	New England aster
6b.	Does the leaf not clasp the stem?	Butterfly milkweed
7a.	Is the stem square?	Go to 8
7b.	Is the stem round?	Go to 9
8a. 8b.	Does it have a minty smell when leaves crushed? Does it not smell like mint?	Wild bergamot
9a.	Does it have leaves with deep cuts?	Go to 10
9b.	Does it have leaves without deep cuts?	Go to 11
10a.	Does the stem have channels?	Grey head coneflower
10b.	Does the stem not have channels?	Canadian anemone
11a.	Is the leaf hairy?	Go to 12
11b.	Is the leaf smooth?	Showy goldenrod
	Is there a basal rosette of leaves? is there no basal rosette of leaves?	Rigid goldenrod Black-eyed Susan

13a. Does it have a tightly clumped seed head?13b. Does it have a loosely clumped seed head?

14a. Is the seed head bushy like a fox tail?14b. Is the seed head narrow?

15a. Is the seed head shaped like a turkey foot?15b. is the seed head not shaped like a turkey foot?

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- 16a. Are there seeds all up and down the stem?16b. Are the seeds only at the end of the stem?
- 17a. Does it have a wide, open panicle?
- 17b. Are the seeds not in an open panicle?

Go to 14 Go to 15



Canadian wild rye Prairie June grass

Big bluestem Go to 16

Little bluestem Go to 17

Switchgrass Indian grass