Asclepias purpurascens  
PURPLE MILKWEED  (Milkweed Family)

Flowers in umbels and with their petal-like part bent downward. The distinctive flowers have five erect hoods (the corona) comprising the upper part of the flower, with a curved horn projecting from each hood. Plant of dry fields and tickets; leaf veins form nearly a right angle with the midrib. Purplish-red flowers. Hoods about ¼" long, horns short and horizontal. Leaves egg-shaped or oblong, down beneath. 2-6’ high (61-183 cm). At the Peacock/Woodworth Prairie blooms about the 1st week of June through the 1st week of July.

Text from Newcomb’s Wildflower Guide by Lawrence Newcomb, page 262. Photos by Frank Mayfield at black sweater art, inc.