

LINACEAE – FLAX FAMILY

Plant: mostly herbs, a few shrubs and trees

Stem:

Root:

Leaves: mostly simple, alternate or opposite, usually spiraled, sessile; stipules present, usually small

Flowers: perfect; usually in cymes, 5 sepals, 5 petals, cyclic, petals often clawed; 5-10-15 stamens; ovary superior

Fruit: a schizocarp, drupe, nut, or capsule, may be fleshy or not

Other: ; Dicotyledons Group

Genera: 8+ genera; locally *Linum*

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Grooved Flax; *Linum sulcatum* Riddell

Common [Blue-Flowered] Flax [Linseed]; *Linum usitatissimum* L. (Introduced)

Grooved Flax

Linum sulcatum Riddell

Linaceae (Flax Family)

Busiek State Forest and Wildlife Area,
Christian County, Missouri

Notes: 5-petaled flower, yellow (usually less than 1 cm),
sepals pointed, fruiting stalks up to 1 cm; leaves
alternate, narrowly lanceolate to linear, with 2 small black
glands at base of leaf; late spring to early fall

[V Max Brown, 2010]



Common [Blue-Flowered] Flax [Linseed]



Linum usitatissimum L. (Introduced)

Linaceae (Flax Family)

Wilson's Creek National Battlefield,
Greene County, Missouri

Notes: 5-petaled flower, blue, sepals pointed and
without glands; leaves alternate, linear, usually
many stems together; spring to summer to early
fall

[V Max Brown, 2010]

