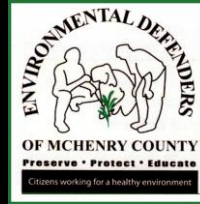


McHenry Township Roadside Prairies



Haley Wegener

Ian Shuman



What is an FQA?

- Universal Floristic Quality Assessment (Index)
- A scale from 0-100 that measures the quality of vegetation within a square meter
- Square meter transect samples were taken every 20 feet for 100 feet to monitor the entire site, then compiled for a larger site FQA



Site #1- North Pioneer Road

Planted March 2020

FQA Results

FQA: 0

Native FQA: 0

Richness: 13

Native richness: 2

Vegetation

- Queen Anne's Lace
- Common Dandelion
- Yellow Hawkweed
- Burdock
- Lamb's Quarter
- Pigweed
- Hungarian Brome
- Velvetleaf
- Black Medic
- Timothy
- Bladder Campion
- English Plantain
- Ragweed

Not in transect

Black-eyed Susan, Common Milkweed, Foxglove Beardtongue

Insects/Animals

- Northern corn rootworm
- Juvenal's duskywing butterfly
- Carpenter ant
- Spur throated grasshopper
- Honey bee
- Purple striped grasshopper
- Orb-weaver spider
- Hoverfly
- Scudder short-winged grasshopper
- Red milkweed beetle

Site #2- South Solon Road

Planted March 2020

Vegetation

- Dandelion
- English Plantain
- Chicory
- Queen Anne's Lace
- Hungarian Brome

Not in transect

Black-eyed Susan, Common Milkweed, Indian Hemp/Dogbane (not in seed list), Aster

FQA Results

FQA: 0

Native FQA: 0

Richness: 5

Native richness: 0

Insects/Animals

- Meadow vole
- Hoverfly
- Northern corn rootworm
- Moth
- Argiope- garden spider
- Monarch
- Lady beetle
- Three-patched bigwing moth
- Dogbane caterpillar
- Dogbane beetle

Site #3- North Side of Miller Road

Planted March 2020

Vegetation

- Chicory
- Hungarian Brome
- Dandelion
- Red Clover
- Creeping Charlie
- English Plantain
- Lamb's Quarter
- Queen Anne's Lace

Not in Transect

Black-eyed Susan, Common Milkweed

FQA Results

FQA: 0

Native FQA: 0

Richness: 8

Native richness: 0

Insects/Animals

- Hoverfly
- Spur throated grasshopper
- Mourning dove
- Purple striped grasshopper
- Black saddlebag dragonfly
- Carpenter bee
- Chickweed geometer moth
- Sulfur butterfly
- Milkweed beetle
- Calico pennant dragonfly
- Common eastern bumble bee (one band)
- Scudders short-winged grasshopper
- Corn rootworm

Site #4- Miller (East of Spring Road)

Planted March 2020

Vegetation

- Timothy
- Dandelion
- Red Clover
- Reed Canary Grass
- Hungarian Brome
- Curly Dock
- Chicory
- Kentucky Bluegrass
- Lamb's Quarter
- Pinkweed
- Orchard Grass
- English Plantain

Insects/Animals

- Black saddlebag dragonfly
- Spur throated grasshopper
- Agiatic ladybug
- Japanese beetles
- Hoverfly
- Barn swallow
- Halloween pennant dragonfly

FQA Results

FQA: 0

Native FQA: 0

Richness: 12

Native richness: 1

Not in Transect

Black-eyed Susan, Nodding Onion, Sedge

Site #5- Ringwood

Planted June 2018

Vegetation

- Queen Anne's Lace
- Lamb's Quarter
- Hungarian Brome
- Reed Canary Grass
- Dandelion
- Kentucky Bluegrass
- English Plantain
- Cottonwood
- Wood Sorrel
- Creeping Charlie
- Black Eyed Susan

Not in Transect

Bur Oak, Sedge, Aster, Foxglove Beardtongue

FQA Results

FQA: 0.3

Native FQA: 0.5

Richness: 11

Native richness: 3

Insects/Animals

- Carolina locust
- Purple striped grasshopper
- Hoverfly
- Black saddlebag dragonfly
- Spider wasp
- Japanese beetle
- Leaf-footed bug
- Spur throated grasshopper
- Eastern Amberwing dragonfly
- Little skimmer dragonfly
- Black sweat bee
- Shining leaf beetle
- Cabbage white butterfly
- Yellowjacket

Site #6- Lincoln

Planted February 2019

Vegetation

- Reed Canary Grass
- English Plantain
- Chicory
- Dandelion
- Red Clover
- Orchard Grass
- Yellow Hawkweed
- Queen Anne's Lace
- Early Goldenrod
- Hungarian Brome

FQA Results

FQA: 0.9

Native FQA: 3

Richness: 10

Native richness: 1

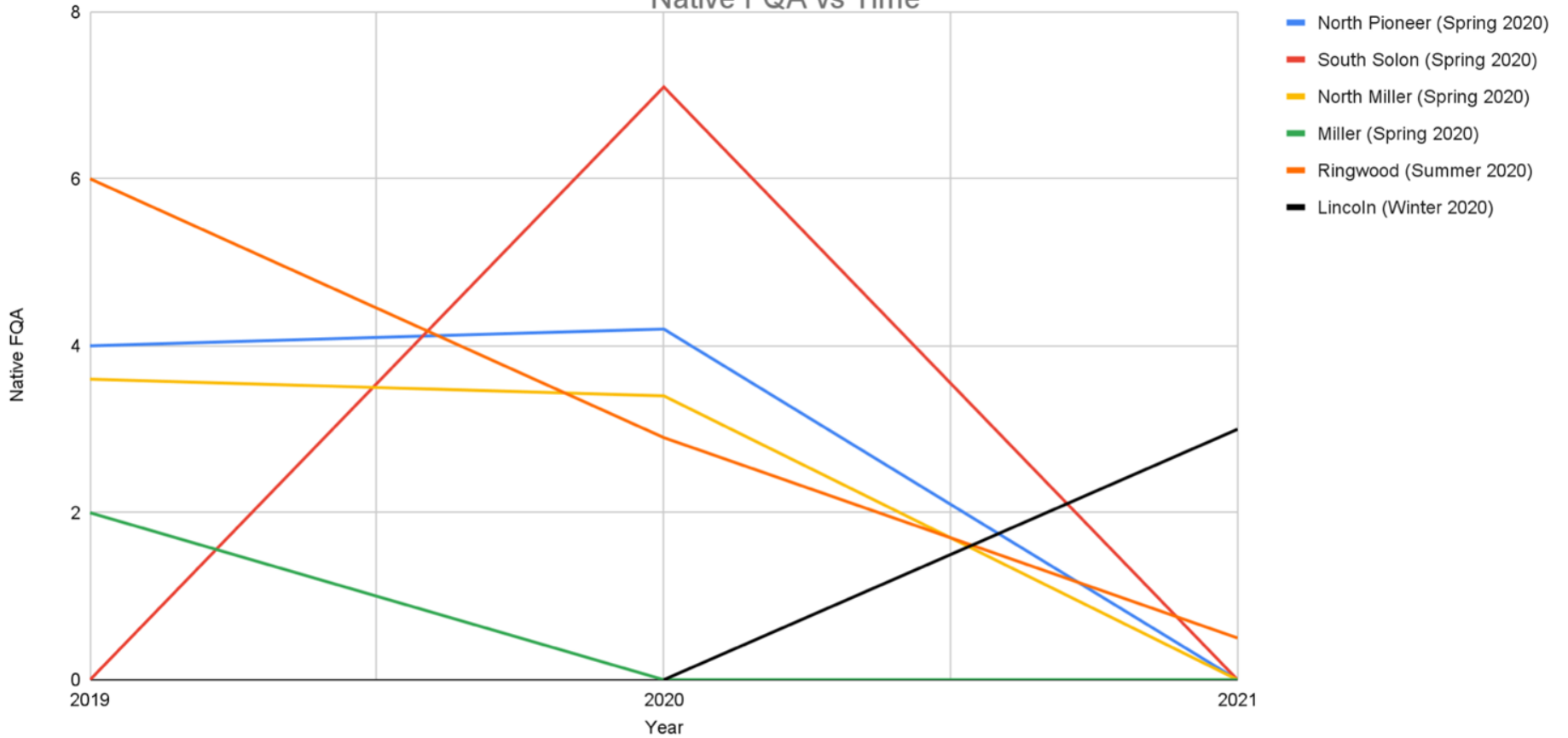
Insects/Animals

- Purple striped grasshopper
- Spur throated grasshopper
- Bowl and Doily spider
- Assassin bug
- Sulfur butterfly
- Green darner dragonfly
- Yellow bumble bee
- Green sweat bee

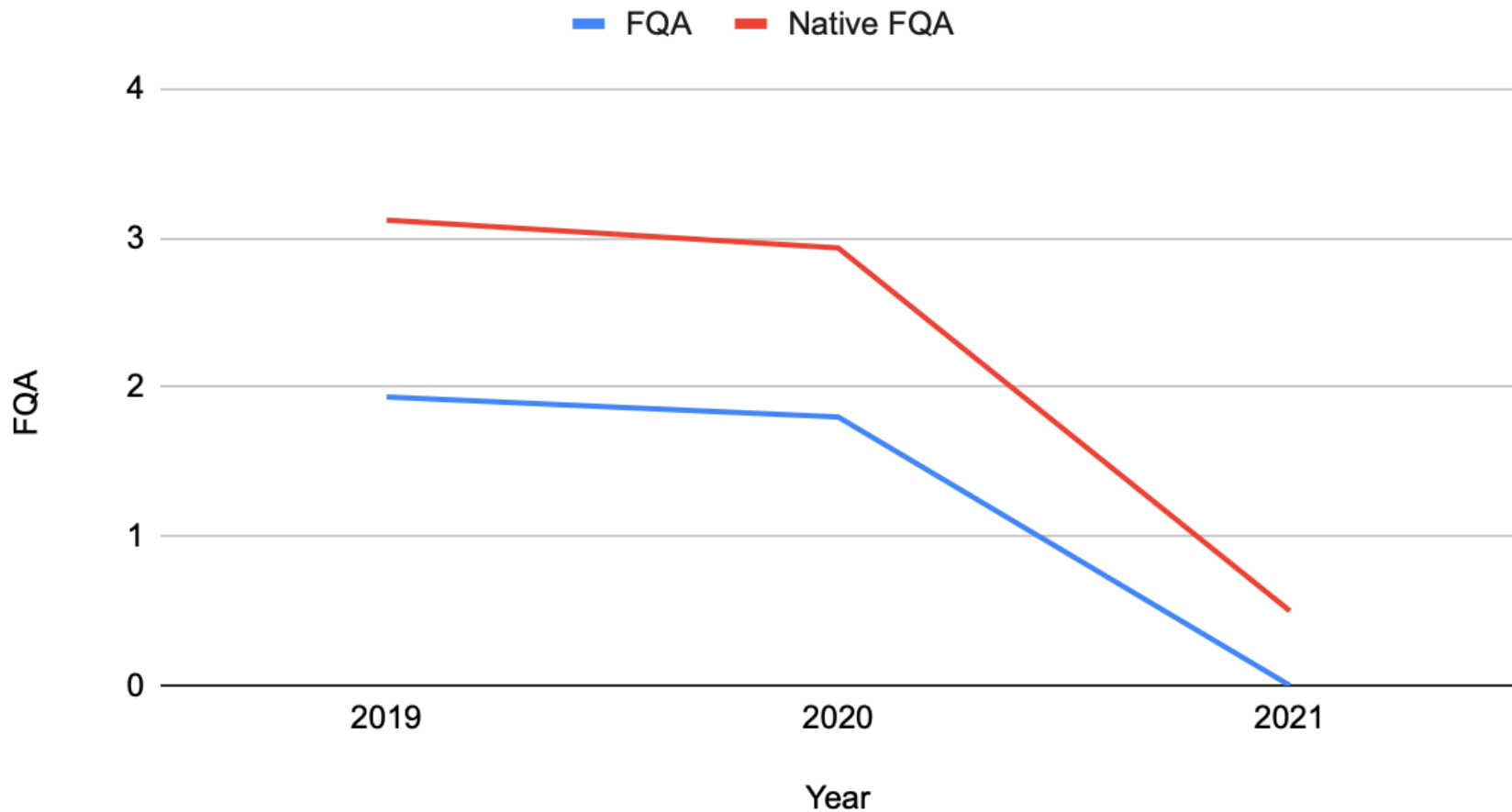
Not in Transect

Black-eyed Susan, Milkweed, Foxglove Beardtongue, Yarrow, St. John's Wort, Side-flowering Aster, Wild Alfalfa, Sedge

Native FQA vs Time



FQA and Native FQA Over Time



Why are the FQAs so low at the Roadside Prairies?

- McHenry County is currently in a severe drought, which stunts plant growth
- Roadside prairies are inherently hard to establish
 - Road salt
 - Pesticide/Herbicide drift
- The general seed list used for planting lacks “showy” species and may not be “tailored” to the specific conditions of roadside prairies
- Need to refine mowing techniques

GRASSES, SEDGES & RUSHES	COMMON NAME	OZ/ACRE	TOTAL OZ
Schizachyrium scoparium	Little Bluestem	35.00	280.00
Andropogon gerardii	Big Bluestem	2.00	16.00
Bouteloua curtipendula	Side Oats Grama	32.00	256.00
Carex bicknellii	Copper-Shouldered Oval Sedge	2.00	16.00
Carex brevior	Plains Oval Sedge	2.00	16.00
Carex molesta	Field Oval Sedge	2.00	16.00
Elymus canadensis	Canada Wild Rye	17.00	136.00
Koeleria cristata (macrantha)	June Grass	1.00	8.00
Panicum virgatum	Switchgrass	1.00	8.00
Sorghastrum nutans	Indian Grass	1.00	8.00
GRASSES, SEDGES & RUSHES TOTAL		95.00	760.00

WILDFLOWERS	COMMON NAME	OZ/ACRE	TOTAL OZ
Allium cernuum	Nodding Onion	5.00	40.00
Anemone canadensis	Meadow Anemone	5.00	40.00
Coreopsis palmata	Prairie Coreopsis	5.00	40.00
Desmodium illinoense	Illinois Tick Trefoil	5.00	40.00
Eryngium yuccifolium	Rattlesnake Master	4.00	32.00
Helianthus occidentalis	Western Sunflower	2.00	16.00
Kuhnia eupatorioides	False Boneset	2.00	16.00
Liatris aspera	Rough Blazing Star	1.00	8.00
Liatris pycnostachya	Prairie Blazing Star	5.00	40.00
Parthenium integrifolium	Wild Quinine	5.00	40.00
Penstemon digitalis	Foxglove Beard Tongue	2.50	20.00
Physostegia virginiana	Obedient Plant	3.00	24.00
Potentilla arguta	Prairie Cinquefoil	1.50	12.00
Pycnanthemum virginianum	Mountain Mint	1.00	8.00
Rudbeckia hirta	Black-Eyed Susan	3.00	24.00
WILDFLOWERS TOTAL		50.00	400.00



Showy and easy

These species establish readily, are relatively inexpensive and create masses of color noticeable at 65 mph. They are crowd pleasers.

- Gray-headed coneflower (*Ratibida pinnata*)
- Ox-eye sunflower (*Heliopsis helianthoides*)
- Wild bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*)
- New England aster (*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*)
- Black-eyed susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*)

the ground, and plan additional conservation actions for monarch butterfly.

The Science Committee is comprised of biological and conservation experts to support Illinois Monarch Project strategy development and implementation. The Science Committee addresses emerging issues and needs related

along with other nectar sources (wildflowers). This will benefit monarch butterflies and pollinators throughout the growing season. Monarchs lay more eggs on young milkweed and on new growth. This document has been developed to help you maintain areas for the benefit of monarchs and other pollinators using mowing as one management tool.