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Cover photo: Compass plant (*Silphium laciniatum*) in the Butler University Prairie (Indianapolis, Indiana). Compass plant leaves tend to point in ordinal directions (N-S) and were used by early settlers to show direction. Studies have shown that this orientation reduces solar heat load. Flowering stalks can reach 2.5 meters in height. Roots commonly grow 5 meters deep in the ground. Members of the sunflower family, seeds of the composite flowers are savored by birds. The Butler Prairie is a 3 acre site on campus, planted in 1987 with 50 species of native plants. Photo by Marcia Moore.

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