

Province Flowers of Sweden

Sources: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Province_flowers_of_Sweden and <https://www.minnesotawildflowers.info/>

Province flowers are species of plants selected to represent each province of Sweden. The origin of province flowers came from the American idea of state flowers, and was brought to Sweden by August Wickström and Paul Petter Waldenström in 1908.

Waldenström published the proposal to introduce province flowers in the May 28, 1908, edition of the newspaper *Stockholms Dagblad*, and requested suggestions of species from the country's botanics. A list was put together on June 7, 1908, by professor Veit B. Wittrock from the Botanical Garden in Stockholm.

Stockholm, Scania, and Hälsingland violently opposed the plants that were selected to represent them. Scania was given European Beech but wanted oxeye daisy, while Hälsingland was given Scots Pine but wanted flax. Erik E:son Hammar, a pastor and politician in Sweden, granted the two provinces' wish to change their province flowers in 1909.

Province	Image	Local Name	Scientific Name and Common Name
Blekinge		Ek	<i>Quercus robur</i> <i>Pedunculate Oak.</i>
		Kungsljus	<i>Verbascum thapsus</i> <i>Great Mullein – introduced species in Minnesota. Weedy species.</i>
Bohuslän		Vildkaprifol	<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i> <i>Common Honeysuckle – introduced species in Minnesota.</i>

Dalarna		Blåklocka	<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i> <i>Harebell – a native wildflower in Minnesota.</i>
		Ängsklocka	<i>Campanula patula</i> <i>Creeping bellflower – introduced species in Minnesota. Invasive species.</i>
Dalsland		Förgätmigej	<i>Myosotis scorpioides</i> <i>True forget-me-not – introduced species in Minnesota. Invasive species.</i>
Gotland		Murgröna	<i>Hedera helix</i> <i>English ivy.</i>
Gästrikland		Liljekonvalj	<i>Convallaria majalis</i> <i>European Lily of the Valley – introduced species in Minnesota. Very fragrant. Toxic to both humans and animals.</i>

Halland		Hårginst	<i>Genista pilosa</i> <i>Hairy Greenweed</i>
Hälsingland		Lin	<i>Linum usitatissimum</i> <i>Common Flax – introduced species in Minnesota. Cultivated for its fiber, edible seeds, and oil. Not common or appearing to persist, escaped plants can come from any number of sources including mud from commercial grain trucks and backyard bird feeders.</i>
Härjedalen		Mosippa	<i>Pulsatilla vernalis</i> <i>Lady of the Snows Pasque Flower.</i>
		Fjällviol	<i>Viola biflora</i> <i>Alpine Yellow-Violet</i>
Jämtland		Brunkulla	<i>Gymnadenia nigra</i> <i>Black Vanilla Orchid</i>

Lappland		Fjällsippa	<i>Dryas octopetala</i> <i>Mountain Avens</i>
Medelpad		Gran	<i>Picea abies</i> <i>Norway Spruce – introduced species in Minnesota.</i>
		Smörboll	<i>Trollius europaeus</i> <i>Globe Flower</i>
Norrbottn		Åkerbär	<i>Rubus arcticus</i> <i>Arctic Raspberry. It's a circumpolar species that only dips into the lower 48 states in Minnesota and western Rockies. In Minnesota, it is found in both open and forested northern sphagnum swamps, but it is not common.</i>
Närke		Gullviva	<i>Primula veris</i> <i>Cowslip Primrose</i>

Skåne		Prästkraige	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i> <i>Ox-eye Daisy is an introduced species in Minnesota. It was brought over from Europe in the 1800s, escaped into the wild, and has become an aggressive, invasive breeder.</i>
Småland		Linnea	<i>Linnaea borealis</i> <i>Twinflower is a circumboreal species with 3 subspecies in North America. In Minnesota, the subspecies is most common – americana. Twinflower is reported to have been a favorite of Carl Linnaeus, father of bi-nomial nomenclature, after whom it was named.</i>
Södermanland		Vit näckros	<i>Nymphaea alba</i> <i>White Water Lily</i>
Uppland		Kungsängslilja	<i>Fritillaria meleagris</i> <i>Snake's Head or Chess Flower.</i>
Värmland		Skogsstjärna	<i>Trientalis europaea</i> (now known as <i>Lysimachia europaea</i>) <i>Chickweed-Wintergreen or Arctic Starflower</i>

Västerbotten		Kung Karls spira	<i>Pedicularis sceptrum-carolinum</i> <i>Moor-King</i>
Västergötland		Ljung	<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> <i>Common Heather</i>
Västmanland		Mistel	<i>Viscum album</i> <i>Mistletoe</i>
Ångermanland		Styvmorsviol	<i>Viola tricolor</i> <i>Johnny Jump-up</i>
Öland		Ölandssolvända	<i>Helianthemum oelandicum</i> <i>Hoary Rockrose</i>
Östergötland		Blåklint	<i>Centaurea cyanus</i> <i>Cornflower</i> – introduced species in Minnesota, though it typically is an annual. It is commonly included in “wildflower” seed mixes.