

5. Medicinal Herbs

The specialty crop definition includes several crops designated as medicinal herbs. Exhibit 5.1 lists these medicinal herbs. In Missouri, medicinal herb cultivation is relatively rare. The bold type for ginseng indicates that USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service publishes data for only it.

Exhibit 5.1 – Medicinal Herbs Included in Specialty Crop Definition

Artemisia	Arum	Astragalus	Boldo
Cananga	Comfrey	Coneflower	Fenugreek
Feverfew	Foxglove	Ginkgo biloba	Ginseng
Goat's rue	Goldenseal	Gypsywort	Horehound
Horsetail	Lavender	Liquorice	Marshmallow
Mullein	Passion flower	Patchouli	Pennyroyal
Pokeweed	St. John's wort	Senna	Skullcap
Sonchus	Sorrel	Stevia	Tansy
Urtica	Witch hazel	Wood betony	Wormwood
Yarrow	Yerba buena		

The ginseng data set for Missouri is relatively small. Operations reported harvesting ginseng in 1997 and 2002. Five operations indicated that they harvested ginseng area in 1997. By 2002, just one operation reported harvesting ginseng. To avoid releasing information for the one operation, USDA didn't disclose ginseng harvested acreage or production in 2002. Data were reported for 1997, however. At the time, Missouri was reported to harvest one acre of ginseng, and production totaled 1,035 pounds (USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service 2017b). Because ginseng is collected from the wild, operations that sell ginseng may be less likely to share production data. Sharing such information may ultimately lead to theft if the public uses that information to identify areas where the ginseng grows.