

## Wetland and Grassland Flora

The Senjogahara Wetland and the Odashirogahara Wetland provide habitat for over 100 species of wetland and grassland plants, including a number of rare species.

Senjogahara Wetland is home to Hozaki shimotsuke (*Spiraea salicifolia*), a type of spiraea prized for its beautiful flowers in the summer. On Honshu, the main island of Japan, it is only found in Oku-Nikko and on Kirigamine in Nagano Prefecture. Hare's-tail cottongrass (*Eriophorum vaginatum*) proliferates in the Senjogahara Wetland in June, while the Odashirogahara Wetland has many colorful plants such as the Japanese thistle (*Cirsium japonicum*), and Ibukitorano (*Bistorta officinalis* (Delarbre) *subsp. japonica*) which exhibits white blooms in July. Oku-Nikko offers a rare opportunity to see grassland and wetland plants within the same park.