



## HERBACEOUS MONOCOTYLEDONOUS PLANTS

### *Aletris lutea*

- Common name: Yellow Colicroot; Star Grass  
Form: Erect perennial, 2 - 3 feet tall  
Leaves: Basal rosette, elliptical, green to yellow-green  
Flowers: Raceme; single stalk of yellow tubular to bell-shaped flowers, three petals; **May - July**  
Fruit: Capsule; up to 1/3 inch long; **August**  
Habitat: Flatwoods, pinelands, bogs, savannas, roadside ditches



### *Calopogon tuberosus* (*Calopogon pulchellus*)

- Common name: Tuberous Grasspink; Grass Pink Orchid  
Form: Perennial, 4 - 20 inches tall  
Leaves: Basal rosette; stem leaves alternate and lanceolate, entire margins



- Flowers: Raceme; bright pink or purple flowers, a lip petal stands above two side petals and three sepals; **April - June**  
Fruit: Capsule; **April - June**  
Habitat: Savannas, bogs, pinewoods, wet meadows  
Comments: The Grass Pink Orchid is one of the most common orchids of the Reserves.



### *Cleistes bifaria* (*Pogonia bifaria*)

- Common Name: Small Spreading Pogonia; Rose Orchid
- Form: Herbaceous perennial, to 20 inches tall
- Leaves: 1, sometimes 2, above midstem; hairless; lanceolate; pale green, about three inches long
- Flowers: Pink, tubular, 2 inches long, with 3 long, narrow, brownish sepals; **April - May**
- Fruit: Cylindric capsule with many tiny seeds; **June - July**
- Habitat: Acid soils; open woods, pine barrens, bogs
- Comments: A rare, fire-dependent species. Most native orchids are very difficult to transplant.

## *Crinum americanum*

Common name: Seven Sisters  
Lily; Swamp Lily

Form: Bulbous  
perennial, 12 -  
36 inches tall

Leaves: Mostly basal,  
linear, entire  
margins

Flowers: Umbel of  
2 - 6 flowers,  
fragrant, six  
white petals with  
pink markings;  
leafless stalk;

March - November

Fruit: Capsule; March - November

Habitat: Edges of fresh water and low saline wetlands,  
roadside ditches



## *Eichhornia crassipes*

**EXOTIC INVASIVE**

Common Name: Common Water Hyacinth

Form: Free-floating  
stoloniferous  
aquatic perennial;  
sometimes rooted  
in bottom mud

Leaves: Ovoid to circular,  
up to 5 inches  
across; petioles  
inflated to provide  
floatation

Flowers: 6 - lobed, joined at  
the base; lavender,



## *Eichhornia crassipes* continued...

- occasionally white; the upper petal has a purple blotch with a yellow spot; **April - October**
- Fruit: 3-celled capsule, with many small ribbed seeds; **May - November**
- Habitat: Standing or flowing water in ditches, lakes, ponds, canals
- Comments: Water hyacinth is native to South America. It is one of the world's worst invasive exotic species.

## *Eriocaulon decangulare*

- Common name: Tenangle Pipewort; Hatpins; Hard Heads
- Form: Erect perennial, up to 5 feet tall
- Leaves: Basal rosettes, thin, linear, entire margins, grasslike; stems leafless
- Flowers: Solitary inflorescence of small, hard, white flower heads, 2 - 3 petals; **March - October**
- Fruit: Capsule; **June - October**
- Habitat: Roadside ditches, pine savannas, flatwoods





## *Iris virginica*

- Common name: Virginia Iris; Southern Blue Flag
- Form: Perennial, to 3 feet tall
- Leaves: Basal; linear, flat, sharply-pointed, to 3 feet long
- Flowers: Showy, blue-purple; 9 petal-like structures: 3 each, brightly-colored sepals, petals, and stamens; April - May
- Fruit: Capsule; May - June
- Habitat: Wet, open places; marshes, river banks.

## *Lachnanthes caroliana*

- Common name: Carolina Redroot; Redroot
- Form: Upright, hairy perennial with red rhizomes and roots
- Leaves: Mostly basal, linear, and overlapping at base, up to 1 inch wide
- Flowers: Panicle; round-topped, terminal, up to 5 feet tall; hairy, three grayish-white sepals, three petals similar; three yellow stamens; June - October
- Fruit: Capsule; round, hairy, ¼ inch in diameter; July - November
- Habitat: Swamps, pine savannas, bogs, roadside ditches





## *Lilium catesbaei*

Common name: Pine Lily; Catesby Lily  
Form: Herbaceous perennial,  
up to 2 feet tall  
Leaves: Alternate, simple,  
narrow, ascending

Flowers: Single, cup shaped, deep yellow to scarlet; 5 inches across, three petals and three sepals with similar appearance; **July - September**  
Fruit: Capsule; **September - November**  
Habitat: Moist flatwoods, bogs, savannas

## *Listera australis*

Common Name: Southern Twayblade  
Form: Herbaceous perennial, to 10 inches tall  
Leaves: 2 ovate leaves, 1 inch long, near midstem  
Flowers: Slender, sharp-pointed, to  $\frac{2}{3}$  inch long; lip is very narrow, split nearly to the base; flowers have a sharp, beak-like appearance; **February - March**  
Fruit: Oval capsule with relatively large seeds; **March**  
Habitat: Moist woods; often found in association with Cinnamon Fern





## *Lophiola aurea*

- Common Name: Goldencrest
- Form: Rhizomatous perennial, up to 3 feet tall
- Leaves: Alternate, narrow, linear, up to 15 inches long, ½ inch wide; decreasing in size upward on the stem
- Flowers: Inflorescence is densely silver-pubescent; individual flowers are ¼ inch across, golden yellow; **May - July**
- Fruit: Oval, beaked capsule; **July - September**
- Habitat: Bogs, flatwoods, wet ditches

## *Mayaca fluviatilis*

- Common Name: Stream Bogmoss
- Form: Recumbent, herbaceous perennial; often submerged
- Leaves: Awl-shaped; ⅓ inch wide, up to ½ inch long
- Flowers: Up to ½ inch across; 3 lavender petals, 3 prominent yellow stamens; **June - September**
- Fruit: Oval capsule, to ⅓ inch long; **August - October**
- Habitat: Immersed in fresh water or on permanently wet shores
- Comments: This plant is vegetatively similar to unrelated clubmosses, which are non-flowering plants.





## *Peltandra sagittifolia*

- Common name: White Arrow Arum; Spoonflower
- Form: Perennial, to 2 feet tall
- Leaves: Basal; sagittate (arrowhead shaped), to 12 inches long, 5 inches wide
- Flowers: White, membranous spathe surrounding a yellow rod-shaped spadix, which contains the small flowers.  
May - June
- Fruit: Ovoid cluster of berries, 1 ½ inch long; green, becoming bright-red when ripe; July - August
- Habitat: Shady areas; swamps, permanently wet ditches;
- Comments: This is an uncommon species and is of conservation concern.

## *Platanthera ciliaris* (*Habenaria ciliaris*)

- Common Name: Yellow Fringed Orchid
- Form: Herbaceous perennial, to 40 inches tall
- Leaves: Alternate, lanceolate, to 12 inches long; reduced upward
- Flowers: In a many-flowered raceme; yellow to orange; lateral sepals nearly circular; flowers have a prominent lip, to  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch long, with dense ciliate fringe; a distinctive nectar spur, to 1  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch long, hangs beneath each flower **July - August**
- Fruit: Small capsule,  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch long, with many tiny seeds; **August - September**
- Habitat: Bogs, open swamps, marshes.
- Comment: This orchid is threatened by the suppression of fire.





## *Pontederia cordata*

- Common name: Pickerelweed
- Form: Aquatic perennial, 2 - 3 feet tall
- Leaves: Basal, ovate to lanceolate, with cordate bases and obtuse tips
- Flowers: Spike, violet-blue, 6 - 8 inches long with a single subtending leaf; funnel-shaped, upper lip with three lobes, middle lobe with yellow spots; **May - September**
- Fruit: Achene; **May - September**
- Habitat: Variety of wet sites with shallow margins, including fresh marshes, roadside ditches, ponds
- Comment: Pickerelweed is noted as a butterfly nectar plant.



## *Sagittaria lancifolia*

- Common name: Bulltongue Arrowhead; Duck-potato
- Form: Erect, herbaceous, aquatic perennial, up to 3 feet tall
- Leaves: Blades lanceolate, elliptical to ovate, 8 - 24 inches long, entire margins
- Flowers: Flowers on scapes in whorls; white with three conspicuous petals; staminate flowers at top of scape, pistillate flowers below; **March - October**



## *Sagittaria lancifolia* continued...

- Fruit: Achene; **March - October**
- Habitat: Roadside ditches, ponds, marshes, other freshwater wetlands
- Comment: The plant is used as a food resource for wildlife and used by herbalists as a diuretic.

## *Sisyrinchium angustifolium*

Common name: Narrowleaf Blue-eyed Grass; Blue-eyed Grass



- Form: Erect perennial, not a grass; 20 inches tall, in grasslike clumps
- Leaves: Basal rosette, linear, entire margins
- Flowers: Terminal, violet, blue, yellow or white with yellow throats, six petals; flowering stems winged, branched, flat, resembling leaves; **March - July**

- Fruit: Capsule; spherical, dark green or black, up to ¼ inch diameter; **May - August**
- Habitat: Roadsides, savannas, open woods, moist soils

## *Tillandsia usneoides*

- Common name: Spanish Moss
- Form: Herbaceous perennial, epiphytic, up to 25 feet long
- Leaves: Long, thin, threadlike, silvery gray
- Flowers: Inconspicuous; chartreuse to emerald green or green-blue; three petals; **March - June**
- Fruit: Capsule; **March - June**



- Habitat: Supported by trees, especially oaks and cypress trees in areas with moist, warm air
- Comment: Spanish Moss is not a parasite but an epiphyte capable of photosynthesis. It uses dust particles from air and water for nourishment.

### *Tradescantia ohiensis*

- Common Name: Bluejacket; Ohio Spiderwort
- Form: Herbaceous perennial, up to 30 inches tall
- Leaves: Linear, sharp-pointed; up to 16 inches long,  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch wide
- Flowers: Blue to purple, occasionally white; 3 petals and 6 bright yellow stamens with prominent blue hairs;  
April - August



- Fruit: Round, papery capsule,  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch across;  
April - August
- Habitat: Open areas; meadows, lawns, roadsides, disturbed sites
- Comments: Blue staminate hairs are chains of single large cells. The flowers wilt after a single day.

## *Typha latifolia*

- Common Name: Broadleaf  
Cattail
- Form: Large erect,  
herbaceous  
perennial,  
from rhizomes
- Leaves: Up to 7 feet  
tall, about 1 inch wide; sharply pointed
- Flowers: Female flowers are in a brown, densely crowded,  
cylindrical spike, about 8 inches long, 2 inches  
across; minute male flowers produce pollen on the  
stem above the female spike; **May - July**
- Fruit: Miniscule ripened ovaries contain seeds; long hairs  
transport seeds in the wind; **August - October**
- Habitat: Freshwater marshes, wet ditches, wet disturbed sites
- Comments: Cattails often form dense stands that impair the  
flow of water in ditches and canals. Called the  
“supermarket of the marshes,” every part of this  
plant has been used for food, fiber, or tools.



## *Xyris* sp.

- Common name: Yellow-eyed Grass
- Form: Erect, smooth, annual or  
perennial, up to 1 foot tall
- Leaves: Flat, linear, iris-like; 6 - 24  
inches long, up to ½ inch wide
- Flowers: Bright yellow with three petals;  
flower head resembling a cone  
with multiple overlapping  
bracts covering flower bases;  
**May - October**
- Fruit: Capsule; **June - October**



- Habitat: Bogs, savannas, swamps, freshwater marshes
- Comment: Many different species occur and are difficult to differentiate.

## *Zigadenus glaberrimus*

Common Name: Sandbog Deathcamus; Fly Poison

Form: Erect, rhizomatous, herbaceous perennial, up to 4 feet tall

Leaves: Linear, up to 16 inches long,  $\frac{2}{3}$  inch wide; leaves reduced up the stem

Flowers: In a large branched inflorescence (panicle); creamy-white flowers, 2 inches across; 6 petals, each with 2 circular spots (glands) near the base; June - September

Fruit: Cone-shaped;  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch long; July - October

Habitat: Wet pinelands, bogs

Comments: All parts, particularly the rhizomes, contain toxic alkaloids that can be fatal if ingested.

