

ORCHIS FAMILY.

ORCHIDACEAE

Rattlesnake Plantain.

Goodyera pubescens.

Found in rich woods, usually near evergreens, and blossoming in July and August.

This leaf is oval, with a short, wide foot-stem; its entire margin is ruffled a little, it is thick, silky-soft to the touch, and of a gray-green color finely netted with white-green markings. The leaves are set in a cluster, close to the ground.



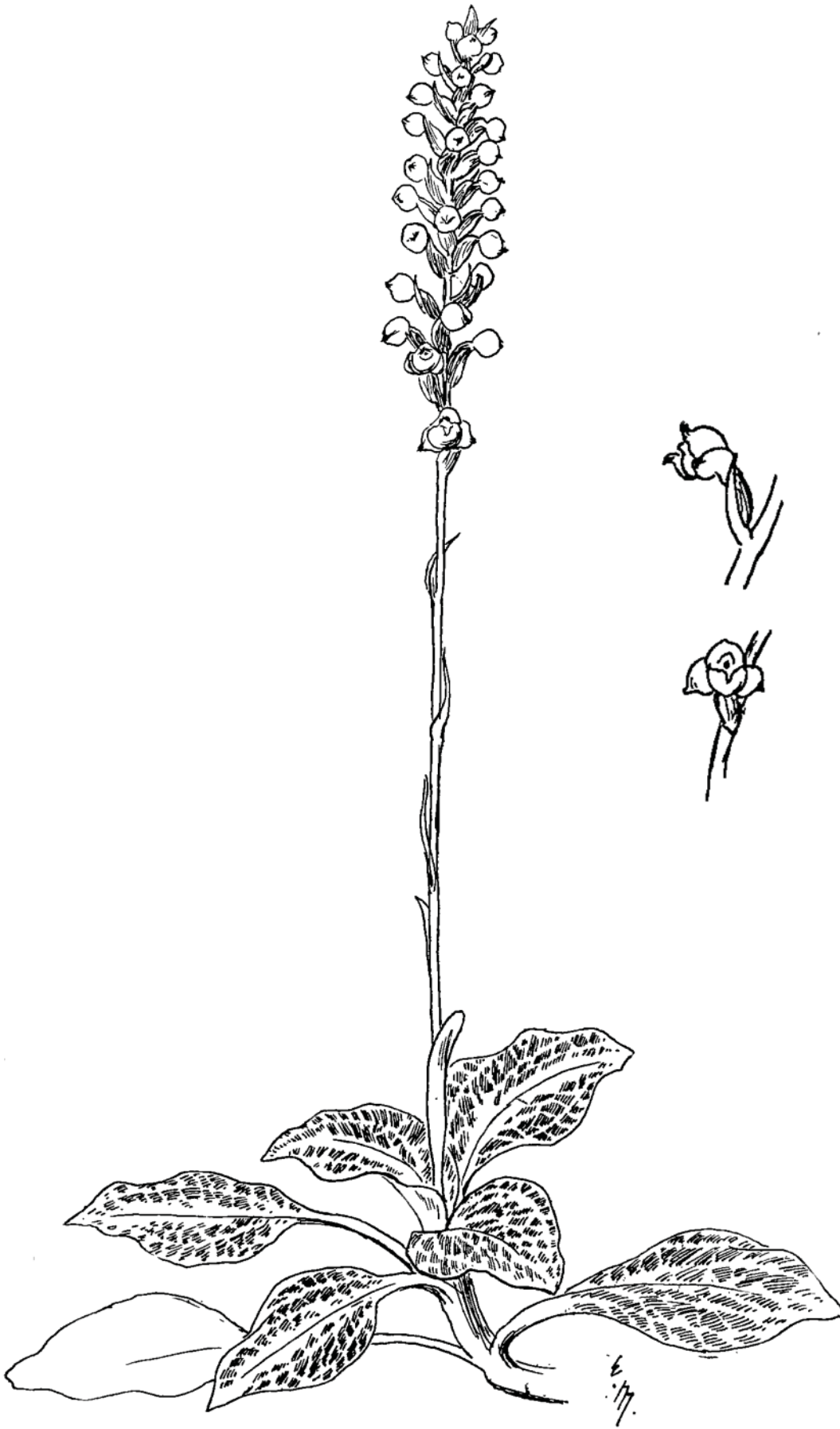
The small greenish-white flower has a lip like a short pouch, with a sharp, narrow tip, the outer parts being folded loosely about it; it is waxy in texture, and placed on the top of the green, downy seed-box. The flowers are set closely in a spike, whose stem rises from the middle of the leaf-tuft to the height of 6 or more inches.

The foliage of this Orchid is more striking than its flower, and usually lasts very late into the fall.



Top photo: NC Orchid from North Carolina, USA (1b *Goodyera pubescens*) [CC BY 2.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0>)], via Wikimedia Commons
Center photo: Alan Cressler, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

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RATTLESNAKE PLANTAIN: *Goodyera pubescens*

Text and drawing excerpted from *Wildflowers from the North-Eastern States* by Ellen Miller and Margaret Christine Whiting, 1895
Nomenclature and Families updated.