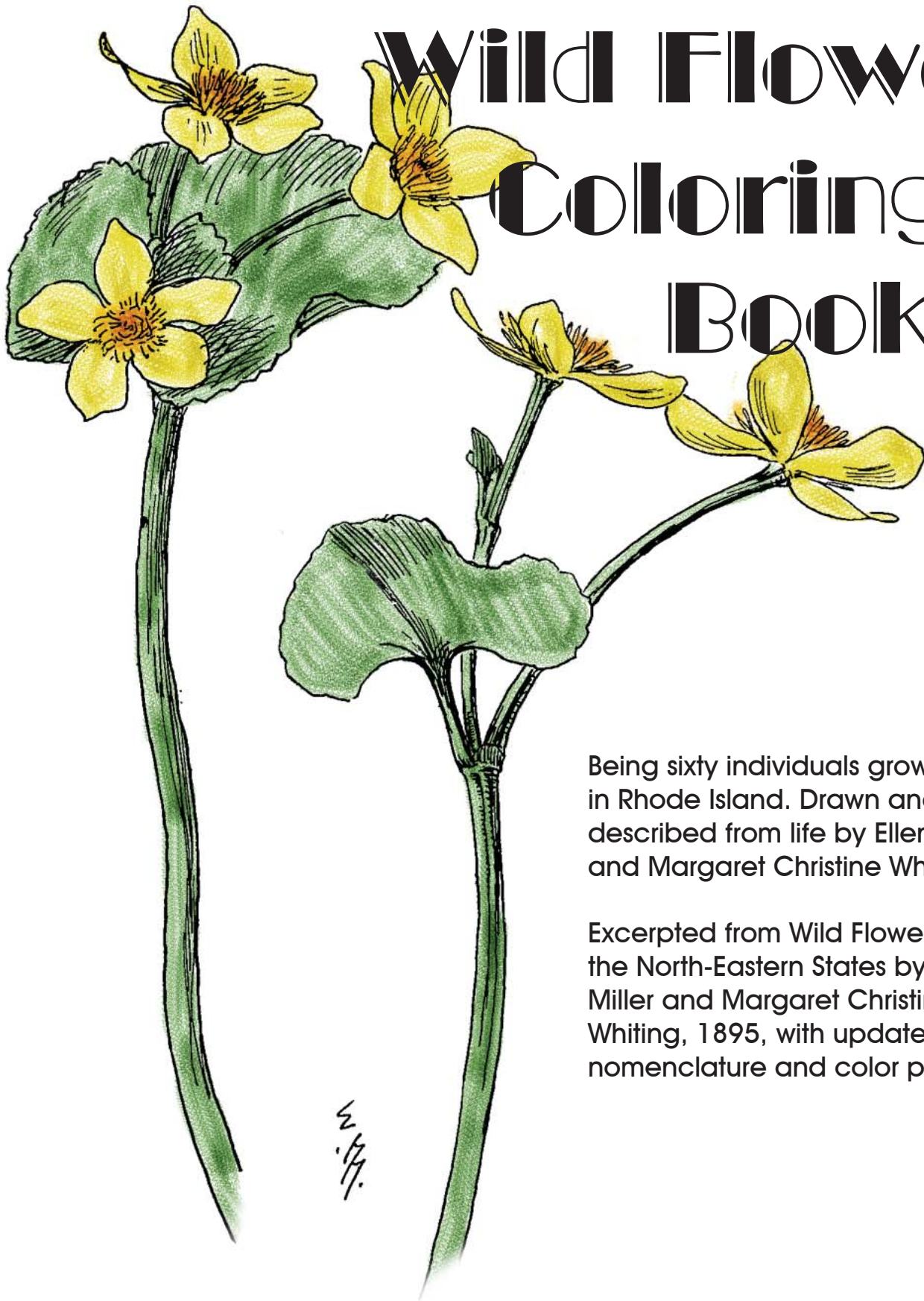


# Rhode Island

## Wild Flowers Coloring Book



Being sixty individuals growing in Rhode Island. Drawn and described from life by Ellen Miller and Margaret Christine Whiting.

Excerpted from Wild Flowers of the North-Eastern States by Ellen Miller and Margaret Christine Whiting, 1895, with updated nomenclature and color photos.

This coloring book is based on the illustrations and text from  
*Wild Flowers of the North-Eastern States*

by

Ellen Miller and  
Margaret Christine Whiting,  
published 1895.

Information and a color photo of the plant are included  
along with updated family and nomenclature information.

This pdf is a companion publication to  
RI Wild Flower coloring pages.

at

[among-ri-wildflowers.org](http://among-ri-wildflowers.org)



An Elfin Press Reprint  
2016



## ASTER FAMILY

### ASTERACEAE

**Black-Eyed Susan.**

**Cone Flower**

**Coreopsis**

**“ Yellow Daisy.”**

**Golden Jerusalem (N. H.)**

*Rudbeckia hirta*

Found in sunny meadows and grass fields during July and August in great profusion.

The stalk (from 1 to 2 feet high) is very erect, sometimes bears branches, and is sparingly leafy; it is strong-fibred, coarse-textured, and hairy. The color, light green, is often brownish near the foot.

The leaf is long and narrow, with a fine-pointed tip, and an entire margin ; the texture is loose, and the surface rough. The color is yellow-green. It slightly clasps the stalk. The leaves are arranged sparsely and alternately.



The minute flowers, of a rich, deep purple-brown color, are packed smoothly and closely in a cone-shaped head, the base of which is surrounded by a single row of 12 or 15 rays; these rays are over an inch long, and are sometimes one-half wide, they are blunt-pointed with a notched top, their texture is silken and faintly shows the veins, and their color is of a noble full yellow. The head is set upon a mat made of a double row of overlapping, small, green parts, and is borne singly on the summit of the stalk, or branch.

A ruthless invader of mowing lots where it makes a brilliant patch of color that may be discerned from afar, the farmer wages war on this handsome flower. It is not unusual to find it indulging in odd variations upon the established habit of blossoming, such as doubling the rows of rays, or with two or three heads bunched together, or set atop of one another.

Photo credits by Nicholas A. Tonelli from Pennsylvania, USA (Rays) [CC BY 2.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0>)], via Wikimedia Commons



BLACK-EYED SUSAN : *Rubeckia hirta*

W.



## POPPY FAMILY.

### PAPAVERACEAE

## Bloodroot.

### *Sanguinaria Canadensis.*

Found in April on sunny slopes and meadow-borders.

The leaf and flower rise from the root on short stems, from 3 to 6 inches high.

The large leaf (from 4 to 6 inches wide when fully grown) is rounding in shape, with a heart-

shaped base, and irregularly cut into 5 or 7 lobes; the ribs are strong, the texture is close and fine—rather thick,—and the surface is smooth. The color is a cool green, silvery underneath, the short stem and the ribs being reddish. The single leaf grows from the root on a thick juicy stem.

The flower petals, usually 8, but sometimes 12 in number, spread in a square shape; they are long, narrow, and tapering at both ends (4 being slightly broader than the other 4), fine in texture, and of a brilliant white; the stamens are many, orange-yellow or golden, and the single large pale yellow pistil is grooved through the middle; the 2-parted pale greenish calyx falls as the blossom expands. The flower stem is smooth, round, large, and pale green tinged with red.

The Bloodroot makes a wise provision against the inclement season in which it blooms, and comes up from the ground wrapped closely in its circular leaf-cloak, pushing its bud through the top to open in the sunlight. The leaf slowly unrolls itself and stands, large and broad, close to the ground,—in general effect it is suggestive of a grape leaf. The root is charged with a dark orange-red acrid juice which gives the plant its folk-name. To this plentiful rich color, no doubt, the brilliant quality of the white blossom is due.

Photo: kbarton



BLOODROOT: *Sanguinaria Canadensis*.



## IRIS FAMILY

IRIDACEAE.

### Blue-eyed Grass. Blue-eyed Mary.

*Sisyrinchium angustifolium.*

Found, during June and July, in moist meadows and pastures amidst grasses.

A few leaves and the flower-stem, from 4 to 8 inches in height, rise from the root.

The leaf is like a grass-blade, fine-pointed, flat, and very thin, especially along the margins ; it is slightly ridged with veins, and is smooth. In color, a strong green with a hint of blue.



The 6 petal-like parts of the flower are oblong and blunt-pointed, with an abrupt sharp tip ; their texture is thin, and they spread widely.

The coloring is charming, a pale or dark blue, with purple markings, and a central design in yellow daintily outlined in purple ; the prominent pistil is yellow at the base, and purple above, while its 3-cleft tip is orange. Two or three flowers are closely grouped on a little foot-stem which rises from betwixt two sheath-like leaves set on the summit of the rigidly upright flower-stem. This stem is furnished with thin sword-like margins.

Though not found in abundance generally, this is not an uncommon plant, and occasionally a meadow may be found which every June morning is turned to a sea of blue, like a flax field for fullness of coloring, and every succeeding afternoon becomes green again, because this little Iris shuts her blue eye by mid-day. But one flower blooms on a plant at a time.

Top photo: Dcrrjr (Own work) [CC BY 3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/>)], via Wikimedia Commons

Lower photo: Marvin Smith [CC BY-SA 2.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/>)], via Wikimedia Commons



BLUE-EYED GRASS: *Sisyrinchium angustifolium*.

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



## ASTER FAMILY.

ASTERACEAE.

### Boneset. Thoroughwort.

*Eupatorium perfoliatum.*



Found in roadside thickets, and the borders of copses, during July and August.

The simple stalk, commonly about 2 feet high, sometimes grows to the height of 4 feet; it is large, strong-fibred, round, and hairy to the touch. In color pale green.

The leaf is lance-shaped, with a long fine-pointed tip, and united at the base to the opposite leaf, completely encircling the stalk as though strung upon it; the margin is finely notched, the midrib stout, with many veins showing; the upper surface is rough, the underside is hairy. The color is a strong green. The pairs of leaves are set at right angles with each other, and at a considerable space apart.

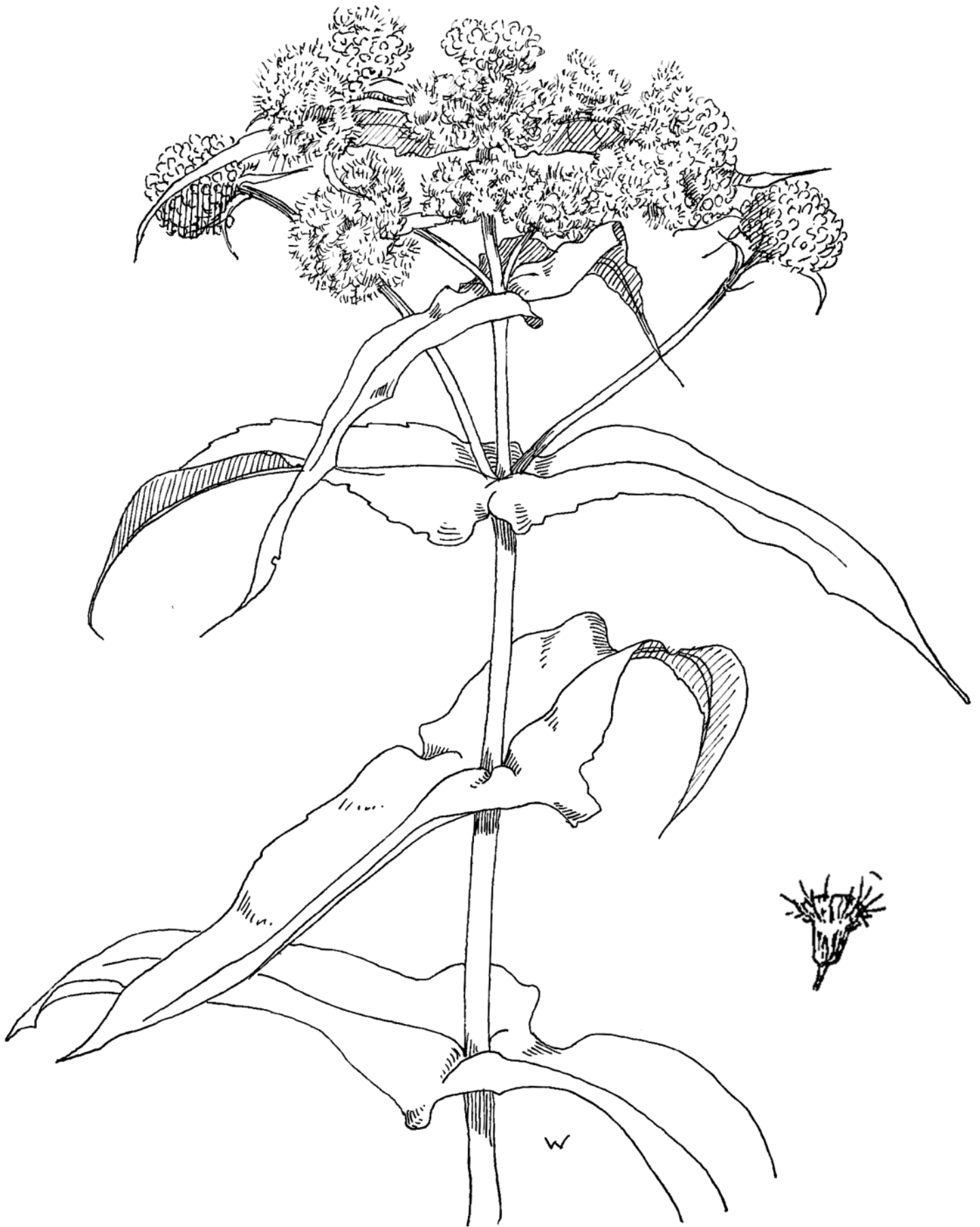


The flowers are small and feathery; greenish white. They are gathered in small tuft-like heads, and arranged in loose, leafy, terminal clusters, on short, stout, pale stems.

A charming kink in the outline marks the joining of the leaves. The pleasant perfume of the blossoms is proclaimed by the frequent visits of the bees. Sometimes the flower-cluster spreads to an unexpected size; personal measurement has discovered a plant, but 18 inches in height, whose clustered bloom was fully a foot across.

Upper photo: ©David Smith, <http://delawarewildflowers.org>

Lower photo: Julie Makin, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center



**BONESET: *Eupatorium perfoliatum*.**

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



## MILKWEED FAMILY.

ASCLEPIADACEAE

### Butterfly Weed. Orange Milkweed. Pleurisy Root.

*Asclepias tuberosa*



Found in dry pastures and fields in July.

The stalk branches often for the flowers; it is leafy, and grows from 2 to 3 feet high, with a strong fibre, its surface is hairy and its color is a strong green, purplish near the foot, and red-orange below the flower-clusters. The juice is not milky.

The long narrow leaf is somewhat blunt-pointed at the tip and heart-shaped at the base, with an entire margin, and a strong midrib; its fibre is strong and coarse, the veins showing, and it is hairy underneath and downy above; the color is a full green, much toned with orange. The leaves are set on short stems, and placed near together, alternately, and with an upward inclination.



The flower is small and long; the crown is set up high on its slender neck, its hoods short and narrow, and yet somewhat longer than the fine-pointed straight horns,—in color a splendid glowing orange; the narrow, fine-pointed lobes are slightly curling, and bright yellow; the calyx is unobservable. The flowers are set on slender, rather long, light green foot-stems, forming a loose flat-topped cluster; the clusters being arranged in a leafy terminal group.

As many as eighteen clusters have been counted upon a single stalk. The color scheme of this plant is especially good; the green betrays the same tawny tone which belongs to the gorgeous flowers.

Top and bottom photos: kbarton

Center photo: © Francis R. Underwood 2016



BUTTERFLYWEED: *Asclepias tuberosa*.

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



## LILY FAMILY

LILIACEAE

Canada Lily.  
Nodding Lily.  
Field Lily.

*Lilium canadense.*

Found in grass fields, and moist meadows, during July.

The single, leafy, and smooth stalk is 2 or 3, or more, feet high.

In color it is green, often inclined to take on a dull reddish-brown line near the flowers.

The leaf is long, pointed at the tip, and clasping the stalk at the base; it is of strong fibre; in color a vigorous green. The leaves are inclined to grow in whorls about the stalk, but are often placed irregularly near the top.



The large and spreading, bell-shaped flower is formed of 6 petal-like parts, whose tips are pointed, and curved a trifle, —3 of the parts have prominent ribs down the middle; it is orange-yellow in color, on the inside speckled with many small reddish-brown dots. The 6 stamens and the club-shaped pistil have dull tawny-orange or reddish-brown tips. From 1 to 3, or more, flowers swing nodding on their short stems from the top of the stalk.

When the orange bells of the Field Lily may be seen gaily nodding here and there just above the feathers of the red-top grass in level meadows, midsummer has come in.

Photo credits: ©David G. Smith, <http://www.delawarewildflowers.org>



CANADA LILY: *Lilium canadense*.

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

## BELLFLOWER FAMILY.

CAMPANULACEAE.

### Cardinal Flower.

*Lobelia cardinalis.*

Found on the margins of small streams, in light shade, and in low moist ground, from July to October.



The single, rather large stalk is round, and somewhat irregularly grooved, smooth to the touch, and a full green color. It grows from 2 to 4 feet high.

The leaves are generally from 2 to 3 inches in length, tapering at both ends with the veins distinctly showing, and irregularly toothed margins ; their texture is fine, and the color a full dark green. They are set immediately upon the stalk, in an alternate arrangement.



The irregular corolla is somewhat 2-lipped, with a long slender tube which is split down its upper side ; the lower lip is broad and 3-cleft, the upper being narrow and in 2 parts ; its color is a deep and glowing red, with a darker spot near the throat upon the lower lip. The pistil and 5 stamens, which curve outwards noticeably, are of a lighter red color with fine gray tips ; the calyx is 5-parted and green. The flowers are arranged in a long, usually one-sided, spike.

Coming into bloom when the midsummer vegetation is growing dusty, this plant fills the eye with the richness of its dark green leafage toned into perfect accord with the glowing hue of its flowers,—their color a truly royal one, of unusual depth as well as brilliancy. The Cardinal Flower should not be plucked ruthlessly, lest it be exterminated, an ever-present danger to the beautiful annuals man appreciates.

It can be cultivated from the seed with considerable success.

Hummingbird photo by Bill Buchanan, US Fish and Wildlife Service @ <http://www.public-domain-image.com>  
Photo: copyright David G. Smith via [www.delawarewildflowers.org](http://www.delawarewildflowers.org)



CARDINAL FLOWER: *L. cardinalis*.

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



## ASTER FAMILY

### ASTERACEAE

**Chicory.**  
**Succory.**  
**Blue Sailors.**

*Cichorium intybus.*

Found, from July to September, growing in dry waste places.

The stalk, which varies from 2 to 4 feet in height, is branching, and leafy, rather large, stout and tough of fibre, and rigid in growth; it is grooved and hairy. The color is gray-green.

The leaf is not large, oblong in shape, with a sharp tip; the margin is slightly notched, with spreading hairs along the edge; the midrib is strong and the surface is hairy; the gesture curving, or wavy. In color, gray-green. The lower leaves are sharply cut at the base. The arrangement is alternate, and the leaves clasp the stalk.



The flower is “strap-shaped,” rather broad, with a finely notched tip; the texture is very fine and thin, and the surface is shining and smooth. The color is an exquisite gray-blue or lavender, sometimes inclining to lilac, or even to pink. The flowers are arranged in heads, composed of several rows, spreading from a leafy green cup, which is closely surrounded by 4 or 5 little leaves (or “bracts “): all these parts being hairy. The heads are set close to the stalk in groups of twos and threes, in the angles of leaves, or singly on short stout stems.

These charmingly colored blossoms are scattered all along the stalks and branches, beginning near the foot, where they first open, not more than a few being in perfection at once. This scantiness of bloom and the stiff weediness of its growth make the Chicory plant less loved than it deserves for the peculiar beauty of its blue flowers. It grows most profusely near the seaboard, and in vacant city lots or neglected dooryards it bravely tries to hide the ugly remnants of civilization thrown aside by man.

Upper photo by 4028mdk09 (Own work) [CC BY-SA 3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0>)], via Wikimedia Commons

Lower photo by Tony Hisgett from Birmingham, UK (Blue Flower Uploaded by Magnus Manske) [CC BY 2.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0>)], via Wikimedia Commons



CHICORY: *Cichorium Intybus*



## COMPOSITE FAMILY

ASTERACEAE.

### Coltsfoot.

### *Tussilago Farfara.*

Found in moist meadows, on banks, and brooksides in May.

The flowers and leaves grow from the root, about 4 or 6 inches high.



The leaf appears some time after the flowers; it is large, rounding, with a heart-shaped base, the margin slightly broken by small rounded points, and with strong ribs radiating from the base; it is exceptionally fine in texture, and the upper side is possessed of a silky smoothness, the lower side being soft woolly (the new leaves are very woolly). They grow from the root on stout, half-round stems, that are dull purplish-red in color, and often covered with a loose white wool the leaves are a fine cool green, silvery beneath.



The small flowers are grouped in dandelion-like heads, with many fine fringed rays; all colored alike a bright yellow. The head is held in a deep, leafy cup that is green strongly tinged with reddish-brown; it grows on a stout, grooved, roughish stem, which bears several, small, brownish scales; it rises from the ground before the leaves.

The Coltsfoot, introduced from England, has become thoroughly naturalized here. Its blossoms bear a certain superficial resemblance to the Dandelion, though really different in habits of growth. The leaves are truly decorative, growing thickly in large spaces, and forming a mosaic of green tiles close down to the brook's edge.

Center photo by Sten Porse (Own work) [CC BY-SA 3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0>) or GFDL (<http://www.gnu.org/copyleft/fdl.html>)], via Wikimedia Commons

Top and bottom photos: kbarton



COLTSFOOT: *Tussilago Farfara*.



LILY FAMILY.

LILIACEÆ.

Adder's-tongue.  
Dog-tooth Violet.  
Trout Lily.

*Erythronium Americanum.*

Found in early May on springy slopes or in moist meadow-lands.

Two leaves and the single flower-stem, which is about 6 or 8 inches in height, rise from the root.

The leaves are long and oval, tapering at the tip, with an entire margin, of a thick and juicy texture, and a smooth surface that is cool to the touch. The color is green with a bloom upon it, and mottled and streaked with dull red, which appears very strongly in the midrib and near the base of the leaf.



The flower is nodding and lily like in its general character; formed of 6 long taper-pointed petal-like calyx-parts. A ridge runs down the middle of each of the 3 inner parts. The flower is yellow; dark reddish on the outside of the outer divisions, and spotted with minute reddish dots on the inside of the inner divisions. The 6 stamens are large and yellow, and the pale greenish-yellow pistil is club-shaped, with 3 grooves. The flower-stem is round, smooth, and pale; it grows from between the two leaves.

In the sun the flower opens wide, its three outer divisions rolling back, and exhales a fragrant smell like that of new lilac shoots; the markings on the leaves are richer in color when the plant grows in more shaded places. It is a communistic plant, and exceeding capricious in withholding its bloom when transplanted.

Upper Photo: © Francis R. Underwood 2016

Lower Photo: kbarton



ADDER'S-TONGUE: *Erythronium Americanum*

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



## ROSE FAMILY

ROSACEAE

**Five-finger.  
Dwarf Cinquefoil.**

*Potentilla Canadensis.*

Found, from May to July, about dwellings and in pastures, and light shade ; in sandy soil.

The root sends up a bunch of leaves, from which many long, slender, reddish runners spread ; they vary much in length.

The compound leaves are 3-divided, with an appearance of being 5-parted the side leaflets are so deeply cleft into 2 divisions ; the leaflets are wedge-shaped with noticeable ribs, sharply-toothed margin, thin texture, and downy surface. The color is a strong, full green, lighter underneath. The leaves, on long stems, rise from the root, or on very short stems are arranged along the running stems, in little groups, at rather long intervals apart.



The 5 heart-shaped petals of the flower are delicate in texture, and light pure yellow in color; the calyx is 5-parted, the divisions alternate with the petals, and with the 5 narrow bracts which hug the calyx closely,—all these parts are hairy, and green. The flowers, on slender stems, spring from the angles of the leaves, along the runners.

Sometimes the stems lift themselves nearly erect, but more often they lie upon the ground, where occasionally they throw out roots from the tufted leaves, and so cover the earth with a pretty interlacing network of green leaves, and red stems.

Upper photo by JK Marlow plant via <http://www.namethatplant.net/>  
Close up of flower by Richard and Teresa Ware, via <http://www.namethatplant.net>



FIVE-FINGER: *Potentilla Canadensis*

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



## GENTIAN FAMILY

### GENTIANACEAE.

## Fringed Gentian.

### *Gentianopsis crinita*.



Found in fields, pastures, and along wayside thickets, frequently where it is damp; coming into bloom late in August and continuing until middle October or later.

The stalk, which branches for the flowers, grows usually from 6 inches to 2 feet in height, and is somewhat square near the blossoms, and sometimes twisted; it is grooved, smooth and shining, and light green, tempered with bronze.

The leaf is heart-shaped at the base, tapering sharply to a long-pointed tip, slightly creased on the midrib, with an entire margin, and thin smooth texture. In color it is light green. The leaves clasp the stalk in pairs, which occur at right angles to each other.



The corolla is a deep vase shape spreading at the top into 4 fringed lobes which curve like shells; of a delicate thin texture, and satin smooth surface, in color an evasive azure, impossible to describe, varying from pale to deep (sometimes reddish tinted), and marked upon the outside with fine lines of darker blue. The 4-parted calyx is pinched into 4 angles at its base, and is a light yellow-green color, its long, sharp tips sometimes bronzy. The flowers are set on short, and long, leafy stems; in groups, or singly.

Though often low, and bearing but one flower, it is not uncommon to find a single tall stalk adorned with a dozen or two of blossoms, and a reliable observer reports having found plants 5 feet in stature, and bearing upwards of a hundred flowers and buds apiece! This remarkable luxuriance could only have occurred in some solitary mountain glen unknown to the gentian-hunter, who, between greedy admiration of its beauty and ignorance of its habits, is doing his best to exterminate the plant. The seeds are exceedingly capricious in their choice of a home, and refuse to germinate when garden-sown.

For the aesthetic pleasure also it is best not to pluck them; their charm loses its subtlety when carried into civilized environments—the spirit of their loveliness escapes imprisonment.

Upper Photo: Eugene van der Pijll [Public domain], Great Lakes image collection, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, [http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/image/viz\\_native2.html](http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/image/viz_native2.html)

Lower photo: Robert H. Mohlenbrock [Public domain or Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons Alan Cressler, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center



FRINGED GENTIAN: *Gentianopsis crinita*

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

## MILKWORT FAMILY.

POLYGALACEAE.



**Fringed Polygala.**  
**Gaywings**  
**Bird-on-the-wing.**  
**Flowering Wintergreen.**

*Polygala paucifolia.*

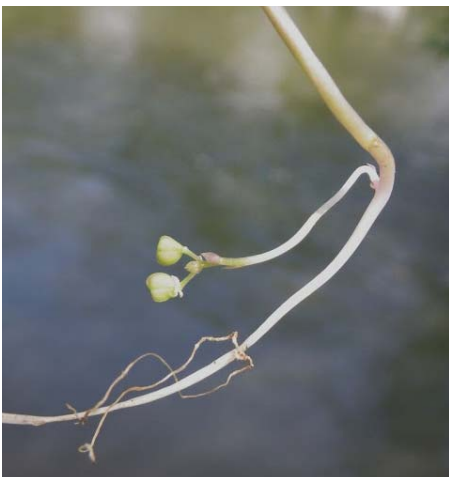


Found in light woods during May.

The single stalk is flattened beneath the leaf, from 3 to 5 inches in height, and slender. It is smooth, and strongly tinted with purple, even with crimson, at the foot.

The lower leaves are small, clasping, and alternate; the upper are on stems, and form a terminal cluster of 4 or 5 around the flowers, —they are oval, with an entire margin, and a thick texture, smooth, and glossy green.

The irregular-shaped flower, like a gayly colored fly, has a very delicate and fine texture, and is of an exquisite clear crimson tint, the one fringed petal being white, tinged with a light yellow-green. From 1 to 3 flowers, on their green stems, form a terminal cluster.

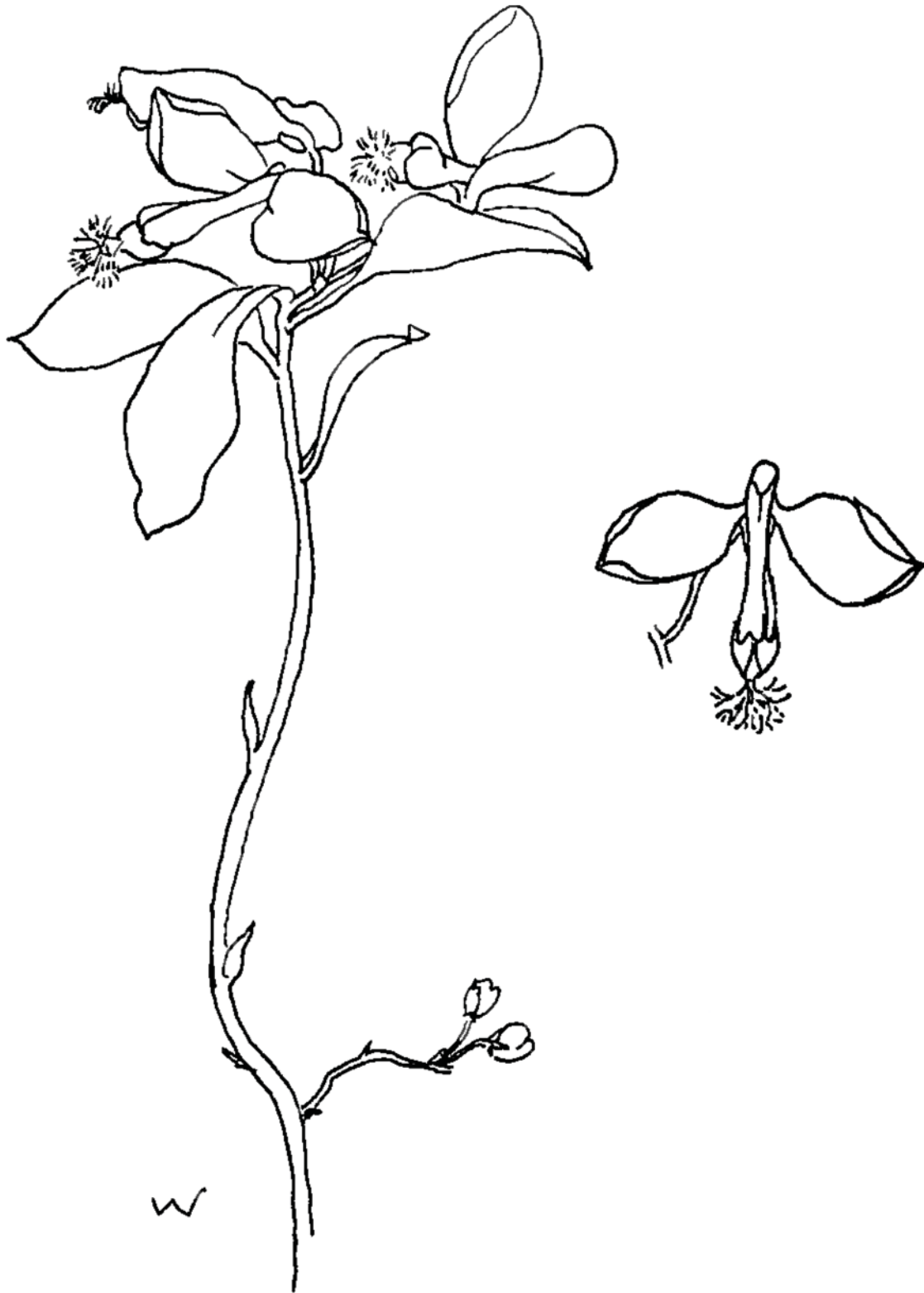


These flowers are the idle beauties of the plant; the unnoted homely Cinderella flower, very small, misshapen, and dull, that sits down in the dust on a little side-stem close to the root (shown at left), bears the seeds. The leaves last over winter, turning a rich crimson-bronze hue, almost as brilliant as the flowers; the fresh leaves are simultaneous in growth with the blossoms, unfolding as the buds swell. White varieties are occasionally found.



Lowest photo on left: Dana at [abundantnature.com](http://abundantnature.com)  
Top and center photos on left and photo on right: [kbaron](http://kbaron.com)

Lowest photo on left: Dana at [abundantnature.com](http://abundantnature.com)  
Top and center photos on left and photo on right: [kbaron](http://kbaron.com)



FRINGED POLYGALA: *Polygala paucifolia*.

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

## ROCK-ROSE FAMILY.

CISTACEAE.



### Frost Weed. Rock-Rose.

*Crocanthemum canadense.*

Found in bloom during June on dry open hillsides and pastures.

The slightly branching, leafy stalk, which grows from 12 to 15 inches high, is woody-fibred, and slender, and rough to the touch with short stiff hairs; it is red or tawny in color.

The long narrow oval leaf is pointed at both ends; its edge is slightly rolled under, and the ribs are prominent and rough beneath; the texture is strong-fibred, and the surface is rough; its green is tawny. The leaves are set on short stems, with a pair of wings (“stipules”) at the junction with the stalk, and occur alternately.

The 5-petaled flower is shaped like a shallow cup of very fine and thin texture and a clear vigorous yellow color, which is in good harmony with the many orange-tipped stamens; the 5-pointed calyx is hairy, and its green is toned with tawny.

A very individual trait of this flower is the fact that the stamens almost always gather together to one side of the pistil, lying flat upon a petal, caused by the rude touch of a passing insect, it is said, so sensitive is this charming plant,—a quality further manifested by the swift fall of its petals if plucked. The flower never lasts more than a single day, and but few blossoms are borne on a plant. This is the first flowering of the Rock-Rose; though ripening the seeds now formed, there comes a second bloom in the fall whose blossoms are very small, with few or no petals, clustered in the angles of the leaves, and bearing but a few seeds. “Generally called ‘Beauties of the Sun’ by the ancients,—‘Sun-roses’ by the English folk.”

Photo credit: ©David G. Smith, <http://delawarewildflowers.org>



FROST WEED: *Crocanthemum canadense*.

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

## ASTER FAMILY

### ASTERACEAE



## Golden Rag-wort. Squaw-weed.

*Packera aurea.*

Found in May or June in pasture lands.

The stalk, which grows from 1 to 3 feet high, is single, somewhat rigid in bearing, leafy, hollow, and woody-fibred, with a grooved surface. Its color is green, with dull brown streaks.



The lower leaves are simple, and round or heart- or lyre-shaped, with toothed margins, and are set on long stems; the upper leaves are long and narrow, their margins deeply cleft, and are set upon the stalk, partly clasping it. The texture is thin, and surface smooth. A rich green in color.

The bloom is small, of a deep orange hue; it is gathered in a close head, surrounded by 6 to 14 short rays, which have slightly notched tips, are of fine texture, and are an absolute orange-yellow color. The heads are set in a smooth, deep cup, of a yellow-green color tipped with red; they are arranged, on long slender stems, in a loose terminal cluster.



Occasionally the flower-stems bear thread-like leaves; sometimes the grooved stalk is slightly twisted. The leafage is inclined to curl, and with its fine deep notches presents a feathery appearance. The foot-tuft of leaves is interesting in arrangement.

Top and center photo: ©David G. Smith, <http://www.delawarewildflowers.org>  
Bottom photo: kbarton



GOLDEN RAGWORT: *Packera aurea*.

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





## BEAN FAMILY

FABACEAE.

### Groundnut Wild Bean.

*Apios americana.*

Found on moist banks, among tangles of low bushes and sedges, in August.

This is a twining vine, leafy, rather slender, and slightly rough to the touch. In color, green, sometimes tinged with a dull red.



The leaf is compound, usually of 5 or 7 leaflets; these are oval, largest at the base, and tapering to the tip; the margin is entire, the fibre strong, and the surface slightly rough; color, a strong, full green. The leaves are alternate at intervals, springing from a strong joint.

The upper petal of the flower is broad, and hood like, the middle folded petal is like a beak beneath it, the side petals narrow and hanging like ribbons to tie the hood. Its color is brown-pink, the hood and beak darkest on the inside. The flowers are clustered together in a dense rounded head, set on a short stem that springs from a leaf-joint.

The front view of this flower carries out the fantastic suggestion of the hood shaped petal, for the beak looks like a strongly hooked nose far under its shadow. It is odorless.

Top photo: George H. Bruso, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center  
Lower photo: ©David Smith, <http://delawarewildflowers.org>



**WILD BEAN: *Apios americana***

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

## ORCHID FAMILY

ORCHIDACEAE



### Calopogon Grass Pink Bearded Pink

*Calopogon tuberosus.*

Found in swamps and wet grounds, in July.

The smooth, green, flower-stem rises directly from the root, to the height of about a foot.

One grass-like, green leaf grows from the root.

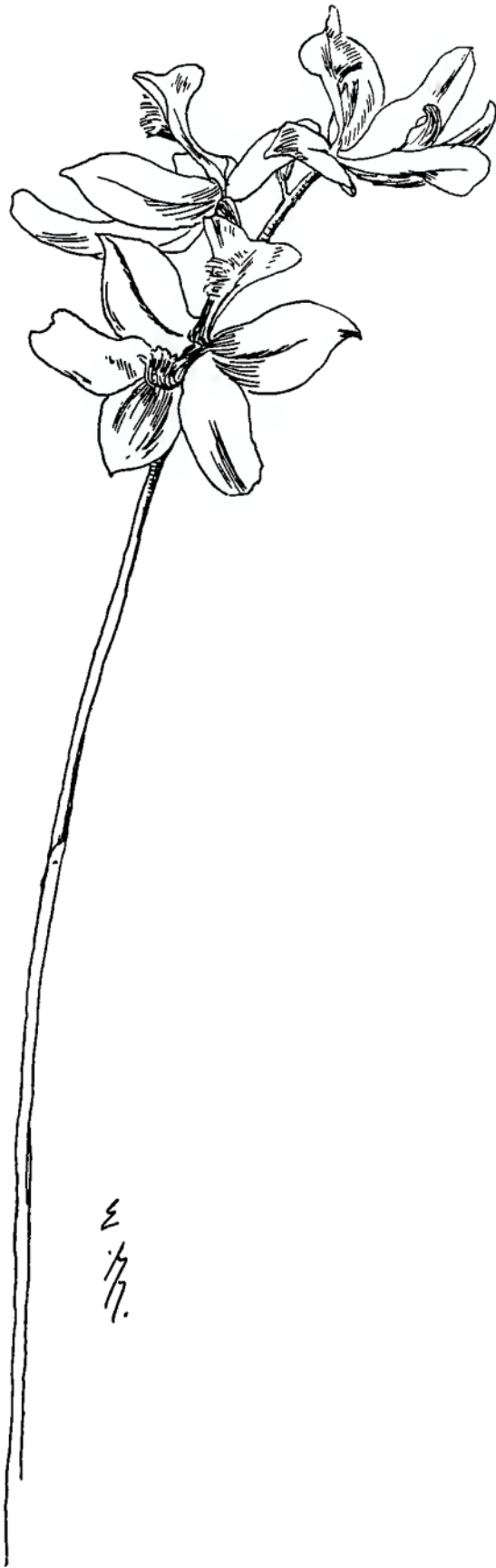


The lower petal of the blossom is wedge-shaped, with a prolonged base, and somewhat fringed in the center,—owing to the straightness of the foot-stem it points upward; the other petals and calyx-parts are pointed-oval in shape; the pistil is petal-like, and curling. The color of the flower is dark magenta, the fringes on the lip being magenta and yellow. From 2 to 6 flowers, on very short foot-stems, grow upon the single stem.

The lip is provided with a hinge, which permits it to fall, and rest upon the curling tip of the pistil beneath.

Upper photo: Bransford, W.D. and Dolphia , Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Lower photo: Bill Bouton from San Luis Obispo, CA, USA [CC BY-SA 2.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0>)], via Wikimedia Commons



Grass Pink: *Calopogon tuberosus*.



## BEAN FAMILY

FABACEAE.

### Groundnut Wild Bean.

*Apios americana.*

Found on moist banks, among tangles of low bushes and sedges, in August.

This is a twining vine, leafy, rather slender, and slightly rough to the touch. In color, green, sometimes tinged with a dull red.



The leaf is compound, usually of 5 or 7 leaflets; these are oval, largest at the base, and tapering to the tip; the margin is entire, the fibre strong, and the surface slightly rough; color, a strong, full green. The leaves are alternate at intervals, springing from a strong joint.

The upper petal of the flower is broad, and hood like, the middle folded petal is like a beak beneath it, the side petals narrow and hanging like ribbons to tie the hood. Its color is brown-pink, the hood and beak darkest on the inside. The flowers are clustered together in a dense rounded head, set on a short stem that springs from a leaf-joint.

The front view of this flower carries out the fantastic suggestion of the hood shaped petal, for the beak looks like a strongly hooked nose far under its shadow. It is odorless.

Top photo: George H. Bruso, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center  
Lower photo: ©David Smith, <http://delawarewildflowers.org>



**WILD BEAN: *Apios americana***

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



## BUTTERCUP FAMILY

RANUNCULACEAE

**Hepatica.  
Liverwort  
Liver-leaf**

*Anemone acutiloba*

Found in April and May, on hillsides, along the edge of woods, and in rocky ground

The leaf-stems and flower-stems rise from the ground to the height of 4 or 6 inches

The leaf is heart-shaped, and 3-lobed, of a tough, strong fibre that often survives the winter. Its color is dark green above and dull violet beneath.



The beautiful flower is composed of 6 to 9 petal-like calyx-parts, of an oval shape, and thin texture, whose color varies from light to dark violet, and from lavender-tinted white to a very pink-lavender, or lilac ; the stamens are many, and thread-like, and of a pale straw color. Close beneath the flower are 3 reddish-brown, downy little leaves, bearing the semblance of a calyx. The flower is set on a slender, very downy stem, which springs from amidst the leaves.



The harmony of color in this plant as seen in the flower and leaf is striking, a preponderance of violet showing throughout. It is very downy, the young leaves being covered with long silky hairs. The numerous half-opened flowers and buds are slightly nodding, but become more erect when fully spread in the sunlight. The Hepatica is often frequented by small lavender butterflies, in size and color resembling the blossoms, when they rise and flutter in the soft spring ail', it is as though the flowers themselves are taking flight.

Photo credits: kbarton



HEPATICA: *Anemone acutiloba*



## HEATH FAMILY

ERICACEAE.

### Indian Pipe. Corpse Plant.

*Monotropa uniflora.*

Found in dark, damp woods, from June to August.

The thick, round, flower-stem varies from 3 to 8 inches in height, and is fleshy, smooth, and clammy. Its color is white, or faintly flesh-tinted.

The small, scaly bracts, which serve for leaves, are white.



The large bell-shaped flower is formed of 5 long, narrow, fleshy white parts, whose tips flare a little. The 10 stamens are dull tawny. The flowers are nodding, usually solitary, though sometimes 2 or even 3 are grouped on one stem.

A parasitic growth (*editor's note: Indian Pipes are now known to be mycoheterotrophs. These are plants that get all or part of their nutrients from feeding upon fungi rather than from photosynthesis.*) on roots and decaying vegetable matter, speedily turning black when gathered, the Indian Pipe displays none of the pleasing attributes commonly associated with healthful sun-loving vegetation. It is, by nature, designed for the semi-twilight of the dark forest, and illy bears transportation into the brighter light of the open; even in the shadows of the woods, it is often found covered by dead leaves.

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INDIAN PIPE: *Monotropa uniflora*.

E. M.

## ARUM FAMILY.

ARACEÆ.

### Jack-in-the-Pulpit. Indian Turnip. Lords and Ladies *Arisæma triphyllum.*



Found in damp shady nooks, blossoming in May.

The root sends up two or three leaf-bearing stems which vary from 8 to 20 inches in height.

The leaf is compound, and often grows to a considerable size; the 3 leaflets are a broad oval shape, tapering at the tip, the ribs much marked, the fibre fine, and surface smooth; a full, juicy green. The stem is long, round and smooth, and sheathed at the foot.



The inconspicuous flowers are borne at the base of a green wand, which is wrapped around by a leaf-like sheath, its tip curving over the head of Jack and making the sounding board of his airy green pulpit. This sheath is tougher in texture and more shining than the leaves, on the stamen-bearing plant it is green, striped with greenish-white, while that of the pistil-bearing plant is green, striped with blackish violet. [Editor's note: The difference in colors is now considered to be subspcies of the *A. triphyllum* and has no connection to whether the plants are pistillate or staminate, but does give insight to the source of the old common name Lords and Ladies.] The Jack-in-the-Pulpit is borne on a stout, round, shining stem, which springs from between the sheaths of the leaf-stem.



In late summer the ripened seeds are found, a thick short club of bright red berries; the leaves of the seed-bearing plants often grow very large and are a rich, dark green color. It will be observed that Jack-in-the-Pulpit is "brother to dragons." [editor's note: This refers to *Arisæma draconitum*.]

Photos top and center: kbarton

Photo at left by Charles de Mille-Isles from Mille-Isles, Canada [CC BY 2.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0>)], via Wikimedia Commons



JACK-IN-THE-PULPIT: *Arisæma triphyllum*.

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



## TOUCH-ME-NOT FAMILY.

BALSAMINACEAE.

**Jewelweed.**

**Spotted Touch-me-not.**

**Lady's Ear-Drop.**

**Balsam.**

*Impatiens capensis.*

Found in moist and shaded places from July to September.

This large, branching, leafy plant, from 1 to 3 or 4 feet in height, is weak-fibred and juicy; its stalk is slightly ribbed, and swollen at the joints, very smooth, and a pale reddish-green.

The large oval leaf, with its tapering tip and broad base, has a wide midrib, a coarsely toothed margin, and a thin, weak texture; the surface is dull, and pale green, with irresolute flecks of red near the edges. The leaves are alternately placed, on short pale stems.



The curious flower consists of a deep cornucopia-shaped pocket terminating in a slender hook-like spur, and 5 petal-like parts; the texture is fine and smooth, and in color it is orange or red-orange, thickly speckled with tawny-red dots, except the small curving side-parts which are less strong in hue, and even tinged with green; the 5 stamens are gathered in the mouth of the pocket, beneath the stem. The flowers swing on slender foot-stems in small groups.



Like all very juicy plants this wilts quickly when plucked. In bud the wing-like side-parts enfold the pocket. When ripe the seedpods burst with a sudden snap that throws the seeds to a considerable distance; to this trait, and to the singular shape of the flower, are due the particular favor in which children hold the plant, and afford occasion, also, for the many by-names by which it is called, such as Snap- Weed, Silver-Weed, Lady's Slipper, Lady's Pocket, and Kicking Colt.

Pale Touch-me-not (*I. pallida*) is a light lemon-yellow variety, very like *I. capensis*, though the pocket of the flower is shorter, the spur less curved, and it is not so numerously spotted.

Top photo:(c)2006 Derek Ramsey (Ram-Man) (Self-photographed) [GFDL 1.2 (<http://www.gnu.org/licenses/old-licenses/fdl-1.2.html>) or CC BY-SA 2.5 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.5>)], via Wikimedia Commons

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



**JEWEL-WEED: *Impatiens capensis*.**

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



## ORCHID FAMILY.

### ORCHIDACEAE

**Large Purple Fringed Orchid.**  
**Early Purple Fringed Orchid.**  
**Greater Purple Fringed Orchid**  
**Meadow Pink.**

*Platanthera grandiflora*

Found on moist and shaded banks, or beside wayside runlets, in June.

The single, erect, and leafy stalk, which grows from 15 inches to 2 feet in height, is sharp-angled, somewhat twisted, and smooth to the touch. In color it is a cool, pleasing green.



The lower leaves are sometimes 6 inches long and about 2 wide, above they are small and narrow; the shape is a long-pointed oblong, deeply indented on the strong midrib; with an entire margin, and a smooth shining surface. The color is a cool dark green, silvery with bloom underneath.

The flower is large and beautiful. The lower petal, or lip, is widely spreading and deeply 3-cleft with a fine fringed margin, and a long and slender, curving spur; the other petals are sharp-pointed, their outer margins notched; two of the calyx-parts flare like wings at either side, while the third part is erect between the upper petals; the texture is very fine, and delicate. The color is an exquisite pale lilac, the lip being slightly darker, and fading to a pure waxen white at the throat; the spur is pale pink, or nearly white. The flowers, on fine, twisted and curved, green foot-stems, are arranged alternately, and close together, in a large feathery spire, each foot-stem springing from the angle of a small leaf or bract.

The blossoms are slightly odorous, as though no gift had been refused to this lovely Orchid. Not least among its delightful qualities is the rich toned green of its leaf, contrasting with the fairy lightness of its blossoming spire.

Photos: Alan Cressler, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center



LARGE PURPLE FRINGED ORCHID: *Platanthera grandiflora*.

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



## ORCHID FAMILY

### ORCHIDACEAE

# Yellow Lady's Slipper. Yellow Moccason Flower.

*Cypripedium parviflorum*  
*var. pubescens.*



Found in May, about a week later than the Pink Lady's Slipper, among low growths in moist shade.

The single stalk grows from 1 to 2 feet; it is erect, or slightly bent aside, leafy, strong-fibred, and roughened by minute hairs. Color, green.

The leaf is a broad oval, with a sharp tip, many parallel ribs, of a loose-fibred texture, and hairy on the upper surface. Color, strong green. It clasps the stalk, and folds about it. Two or three or more leaves are placed alternately along the stalk; they diminish gradually in size.



The Yellow Lady's Slipper's rounded pouch, or bag, has a circular opening at the top, and is thick in texture, with a smooth and shining surface. The long and narrow side petals are much twisted, and curled; the two calyx-parts are broad-oval, the lower 2-cleft; they are ribbed, with slightly wavy margins. All these parts are thin and downy, and colored dull red, or brownish, or purplish, streaked with green; the pouch is bright yellow, streaked with dull red parallel veins. The flower is set, with an outward swinging gesture, on the tip of the stalk, which is enlarged just beneath the point of contact.

The blossom is faintly odorous.

Upper photo: © Francis R. Underwood 2016

Lower photo: kbarton



LARGE YELLOW LADY'S SLIPPER: *Cypripedium parviflorum* var. *pubescens*

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



## CROWFOOT FAMILY

### RANUNCULACEAE

## Marsh Marigold. Cowslips.

*Caltha palustris.*

Found in late April and early May, in swamps or wet meadows, with its roots in the water.

The branching stalk, from 6 to 10 inches in height, is thick, stout, hollow and juicy, and grooved at the joints ; its color is a shining light green.

The leaf is very broad, almost round, with a heart-shaped base, the margin finely cut in slight scallops; the texture is thin but leathery, while the surface is smooth and glossy; the color is dark green. The leaf is set at the junction of the flower-stem with the stalk.



The flower has 5 (or more) rounded petal-like calyx-parts, of a delicate texture that shows a few veins on the inside ; it is shaped like a shallow cup and colored a beautiful polished yellow, tinged with green ; the many stamens are yellow; the pistils form a conspicuous fringed center. Two or three flowers, on simple, or sometimes leafy foot-stems, form a terminal group.

The buds are round and quite green, turning yellow as they grow; the blossom opens very wide, and is slightly odorous,—it is in marked contrast to the coarser stem and leaf, which have a sprangly gesture.

The first sunshine flower of spring.

Photo credits: kbarton



MARSH MARIGOLD: *Caltha palustris*.



## HEATH FAMILY.

ERICACEAE.

### Mountain Laurel.

*Kalmia latifolia.*

Found in rocky pastures, uplands and light woods, and swampy grounds, in June.

This is a large shrub varying in height from 4 to 8 feet, and occasionally taller. Its

stalk and branches are more or less twisted and angular in growth, and woody, of a fibre compact and tough; the old growths are covered with a roughened gray bark.

The beautiful leaf is evergreen; of an oval shape, with a tapering tip, an entire margin, strong midrib, a firm fine texture, and a smooth surface. The color is a fine dark green in the old growths, a light vigorous green when new. The leaves, on very short stems, are usually placed alternately, but are sometimes opposite each other, and toward the end of the branches are clustered.



The corolla is bowl-shaped, with 5 or 6 points; around the middle of this bowl are 10 little pockets,—each one of which holds the tip of a stamen until it is ready to spring out and scatter its pollen,—these pockets, or sacs, projecting on the outside of the bowl, form little spurs all around it. The color of the flower is white, or pink; in the bottom of the bowl a 10-pointed star is outlined in dark crimson, and flecks of crimson occur just above the little pockets. The tiny seed-box in the center is green; the elastic stamens are silky white; the little calyx is green; the flower-stems pale and sticky. The flowers form large and conspicuous clusters on the ends of the branches.

The flowers and buds have a pretty shell-like quality. Shortly after flowering, the vigorous light green shoots put forth, and the ripening seed-boxes take on a crimson hue, making the Laurel pasture all aglow a second time with rich color. This 5-angled seed-box, turned to brown, remains throughout the winter in pleasing contrast to the fine evergreen leafage.

Top photo: Cheri Tolson via <http://www.publicdomainpictures.net>

Bottom photo: ©David G. Smith, <http://delawarewildflowers.org>



MOUNTAIN LAUREL: *Kalmia latifolia*

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

## ASTER FAMILY.

ASTERACEAE.

### New England Aster.

*Symphotrichum novae-angliae.*



Found in September in moist fields and waysides .

The strong stalk varies much in height (from 3 to 7 or 8 feet); it branches somewhat at the summit and bears many leaves, and is hairy to the touch. In color green, or purplish .

The leaf is lance-shaped, with a pointed tip, and a heart-shaped base, an entire margin, and hairy surface. The color is a fine, cool green. The leaves clasp the stalk closely, and are arranged alternately, and near together .



The disc flowers are yellow, inclining to purplish, gathered in a large, noticeable tuft; the ray flowers are large and long (15 to 20 in number), of fine texture, and of a rich deep violet or almost royal purple color. The cup is large, sticky, and its many tips turn abruptly outward; green in color. The heads are set on short, sometimes leafy, stems in small terminal groups.

A singularly handsome Aster, with a fine, free gesture, and admirable color harmony .



Top photo: Sally and Andy Wasowski, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Center photo: Robert H. Mohlenbrock, hosted by the USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database / USDA SCS. 1989. Midwest wetland flora: Field office illustrated guide to plant species. Midwest National Technical Center, Lincoln.

Bottom photo credit: ©David G. Smith, <http://delaware-wildflowers.org>



NEW ENGLAND ASTER: *Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*.

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



## BUNCHFLOWER FAMILY

MELANTHIACEÆ



**Nodding Trillium.**  
**Wake Robin.**  
**White Benjamin.**

*Trillium cernuum.*

Found in moist woods and on shaded banks in May.

The single, rather large and smooth stalk grows from 8 to 14 or 15 inches in height. It is light green, or reddish near the foot.



The leaf is large, a broad diamond-shape with long-pointed tip; it has 3 strong ribs, a fine texture, and smooth surface; and it grows in a whorl of 3 upon the summit of the stalk. The color is a full, juicy green.

The flower is rather large; the 3 petals are tapering, recurved, and white; the alternating calyx-parts are light green; the 6 stamens are dull lavender,—the pistil 3-parted. The single flower, on its short stem, hangs under the leaves, which almost conceal it.



Photo credits: kbarton

Fruit in the fall



NODDING TRILLIUM: *Trillium cernuum*.

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



## POPPY FAMILY.

PAPAVERACEAE.

**Pale Corydalis.**

**Pink Corydalis.**

*Capnoides sempervirens.*

Found in woody, rocky places during June and July.

The erect and leafy stalk grows from 6 to 15 inches in height, and is slender and smooth, with a slight bloom, which makes its color a pale or whitish-green.

The pretty leaf is not large; it is compound, its 3 leaflets being sub-divided and cut into deep scallops on the entire edges; the ribs are very delicate, the texture thin and fine and smooth; in color, a cool green, the underside whitened by a pale bloom. The lower leaves are on slender, smooth stems, and the upper clasp the stalk; they are placed alternately.



The flower is small, fragile and smooth in texture, and hung upside down; the corolla, like a one-sided flat bag with a round bottom and a 2-lipped mouth, is pale pink, the lips being golden; the 2-parted calyx is pinkish. Three or four flowers hang in terminal, groups on slender reddish stems.

The seed-pod is out of all expectation long, frequently over an inch in length, but very slender. The whole plant has a smooth daintiness, and especially is the leaf pretty.

Upper photo: Edwin M. Martin, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

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PALE CORYDALIS: *Capnoides sempervirens*.

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

## ROSE FAMILY

### ROSACEAE

## Pasture Rose.

### *Rosa carolina.*

Found on rocky hillsides, and in dry thickets, during June or July.

The branching, leafy stalk is rather slender, firm-fibred, and smooth, and



grows about 2 or 3 feet high; its spines are occasional, short and fine, and either straight or slightly down-curved, —they occur also in pairs at the base of the leaf. In color green, with, or without, bronzy-red streaks.

The leaflets, 3 to 7 in number, are a long-oval shape, —frequently narrow, —sharp pointed, with an irregularly toothed margin, a thin, firm, close texture, the ribs bristly underneath. In color a fine rich green. The leaves are alternately placed, and clasp the stalk with a pair of flaring, narrow wings (“stipules”).



The petals are 5, heart-shaped, and shell-like, the texture is thin, showing the veins ; color, a pure and delicate rose-pink. The stamens are short, many, an yellow; the pistils gathered in a small crimson center. The bright green calyx-divisions are 5, long and narrow, deeply and sharply cleft, covered with bristles. The flowers on leafy stems, are placed, terminally, or along the branches, in pairs, or singly.

The blossoms are odorous, and abundant, —their petals are beautifully curved. The plants grow in thick plantations, and are partial to upland pastures, where they contest their rights with the Hardhack, and Everlastings, and even crowd upon the red cedars and wild apple trees.

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Lower photo credit: Robert W. Smith, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center



PASTURE ROSE: *R. carolina*

## ORCHID FAMILY.

ORCHIDACEAE

### Pink Lady's Slipper. Whip-poor-will.

### *Cypripedium acaule.*

Found in the woods, frequently under evergreens, though sometimes in deciduous shade, during May.

The slender flower-stem, from 8 to 12 inches in height, is bent like a shepherd's crook, and bears on the curve a small, pointed, green leaf. It is hairy, and light green.



There are 2 root-leaves, large (from 5 to 7 inches long), oval, with a pointed tip, and a much clasping base ; the ribs are parallel, and prominent, the margin is entire, the texture is loose, and somewhat coarse, and the surface is hairy. Color, green.

The lip of the flower is shaped like a large, hollow bag, slightly puckered on its infolded margin ; the other petals are long, narrow, and twist, or curl, on either side of the bag ; the calyx-parts are apparently only 2 (though botanists consider the lower is composed of two parts grown together),—they are placed above, and below the bag. The petal-like pistil is pink; the bag—of a loose texture—is a crude crimson-pink, inclining to violet, veined by many darker lines; the other parts of the flower—of a thin texture and hairy—are colored a dull reddish-brown, tinted with purple. The single flower hangs from the end of the stem.

In some localities pure white forms are frequently found, and sometimes a single stem will bear two blossoms placed back to back. A rank odor is observable, if the plant is rudely handled.



Photo credit Pink Lady's Slipper: kbarton

Photo credit White Ladyslipper: Norm Boyer



PINK LADY'S SLIPPER: *Cypripedium acaule*

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





## HEATH FAMILY

ERICACEAE.

### Pipsissewa. Prince's Pine.

*Chimaphila umbellata.*

Found in dry woods during July.



The simple leafy stalk varies from 4 to 10 inches in height, and is round, tough-fibred, and woody at the base. Color, green.

The oblong leaf is widest toward the tip, and tapering toward the base; the margin is notched, the texture is fine, firm, and thick, with a smooth and shining surface. The color is dark green, lighter beneath; it is evergreen. The leaves, on very short stems, grow in whorls of 5 (generally speaking), about the stalk.

The flower has 5 rounded, concave, white petals, with a rose colored ring marked in its center; the 10 pinkish stamens are set around the large, conical, green pistil, whose summit is flat and sticky; the small 5-parted calyx is green. Several flowers, on short curving stems, grow in a cluster, from the top of the flower-stem.



Pipsissewa's seed-cases are interesting; they are round and brown, and, borne upright on the end of the slender stems, are truly decorative in aspect, and with the shining green leaves remain unchanged by winter's cold. In Maine the plant is called "Love-in-winter."

Top and bottom photos: Jesse Taylor (Own work) [CC BY-SA 3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>)],  
via Wikimedia Commons

Center photo: © Francis R. Underwood 2016

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



PIPISISSEWA: *Chimaphila umbellata*.

## PITCHER PLANT FAMILY.

SARRACENIACEAE.

### Pitcher Plant. Huntsman's Cup. Side-Saddle Flower.

*Sarracenia purpurea.*

Found in swamps in early June.

The leaves and flower-stems grow directly from the root.

The curious leaf is in the form of a deep cup or pitcher, with a broad wing on one side, and a flaring top which answers to the lip of the pitcher; the outer surface is smooth while the inner surface is set with many short, downward-pointing bristles; the texture, especially, of the old pitchers, is tough and leathery, and the color is a strong green more or less veined with dark red. A number of leaf-cups grow in a cluster close to the ground.

The large flower has 5 long dull red petals rounded at the ends, and folded over the large umbrella-like top of the pistil; beneath this spreading green top is the large seed-case encircled by the many yellow stamens; the 5 spreading parts of the calyx are thick and leathery, of a dull reddish-brown on the outside, and green on the inside, with the brown striking through in places. A single nodding flower grows on the top of a long, smooth, light green stem.

The pitchers are often found half filled with water, and sometimes contain the remains of small insects upon which the plant is said to feed. There is no apparent resemblance to a "side-saddle" in the flower unless it lies in the leathery texture of its parts. It might fittingly be called "the Russia-leather flower."

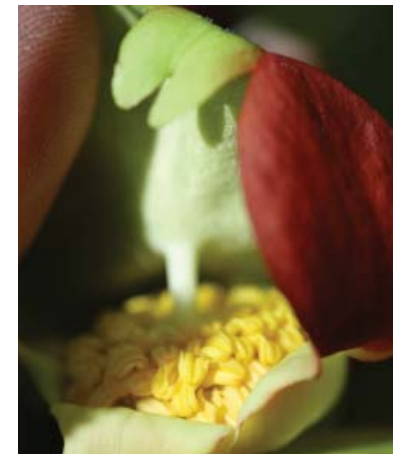
Top photo on left: ©David G. Smith, <http://delawarewildflowers.org>

Lower photo on left: Geoff Gallice from Gainesville, FL, USA - Pitcher plant flower, *Sarracenia purpurea*, CC BY 2.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=22476043>

Top photo on right: Kmmeyer - Northern Minnesota, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=8266909>

Lower photo on right: kbarton

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





PITCHER PLANT: *Sarracenia purpurea*.

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

## PARSLEY FAMILY

APIACEAE



### Wild Carrot Queen Ann's Lace.

*Daucus carota.*

Very common by the wayside and in dry fields, blooming from July through September.



The round stalk, from 2 to 3 feet high, coarse in fibre, and roughened by short hairs, is light yellow-green in color.

The leaf has a very fringed effect, being much cut up into long narrow lobes; the surface is roughened; and the short foot-stem widens into a leafy, clasping sheath. The yellowish-green, alternate leaves are few, and far between.

The petal-like parts of the small clustered flowers are unequal in size and number,—three or four of the outer flowers in each cluster are larger than the rest; the color is white, with tiny yellow-tipped stamens.



The flowers have pale green foot-stems, and grow in flat-topped clusters, each cluster being set around at the foot with a green leafy fringe. In the center of the cluster is often found a single dark purple flower.

Though the growth is sprangly, and the stem coarse, yet the flower is delicate with a lace-like quality. The seed-stems, curling inward, form a hollow, nest-like cup, from which characteristic it is often called the "Bird's-nest plant." It is deemed a great pest by farmers.

Top Photo by Chris Evans, Illinois Wildlife Action Plan, Bugwood.org - See more at: <http://www.forestryimages.org/browse/detail.cfm?imgnum=1380313#sthash.MiCbFgkr.dpuf>

Center photo: kbarton

Bottom photo: Rasbak (Own work) [GFDL (<http://www.gnu.org/copyleft/fdl.html>) or CC-BY-SA-3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>)], via Wikimedia Commons

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



WILD CARROT: *Daucus carota*

## 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 waxen 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

Bottom photo: Joshua Mayer from Madison, WI, USA (DSC\_0267.jpg) [CC BY-SA 2.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0>)], via Wikimedia Commons



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.



## ORCHID FAMILY

ORCHIDACEAE



### Rose Pogonia Snakemouth Orchid

*Pogonia ophioglossoides.*

Found in swamps and other moist grounds during June and July.

The stalk grows between 6 and 9 inches high: it is smooth, and slender: the color is green.

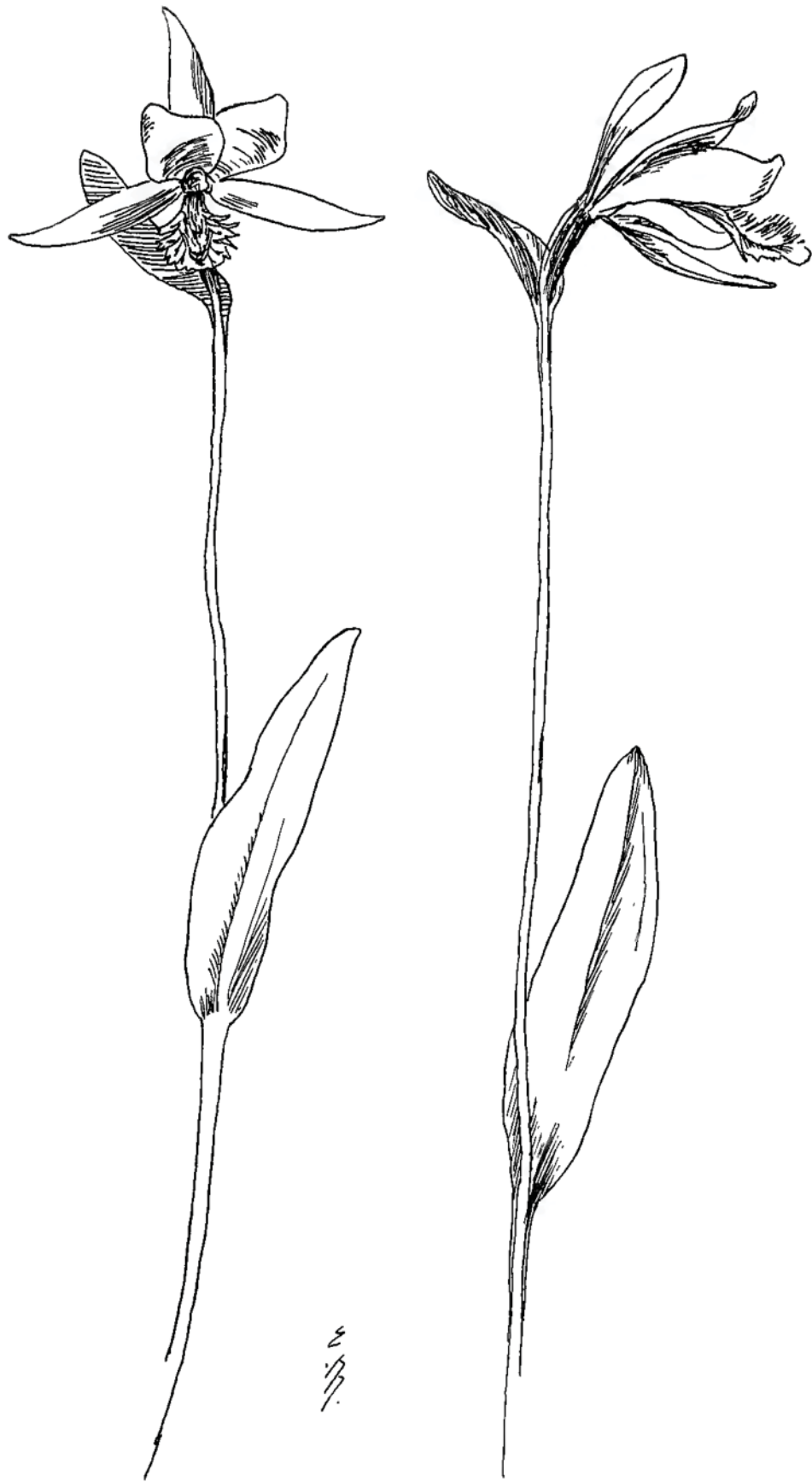
The leaf is oval, with a thick texture, and smooth surface. Color, a rather light green. Only 2 leaves clasp the stalk, one about midway, and another, much smaller, quite near the flower.



The 5 petals and calyx-parts are long, and narrow, and spread apart to disclose the “bearded” lower petal (or lip): their color is a light rose-pink, the fringed lip being darker, with a pale yellow “beard.” The flower is poised lightly upon the summit of the stalk.

This is one of the prettiest of our Orchids: its fragrance is fresher, and less heavy than that of many of its stouter relatives.

Photos: Orchi (Self-photographed) [GFDL (<http://www.gnu.org/copyleft/fdl.html>) or CC-BY-SA-3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>)], via Wikimedia Commons



ROSE POGONIA: *Pogonia ophioglossoides*.

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



## BUTTERCUP FAMILY.

RANUNCULACEAE.

### Rue Anemone.

#### *Thalictrum thalictroides.*

Found in woods and on shady banks, in May.

The slender, erect stalk, 5 or 6 inches in height, is fine and smooth; in color, a light reddish-tinged green.

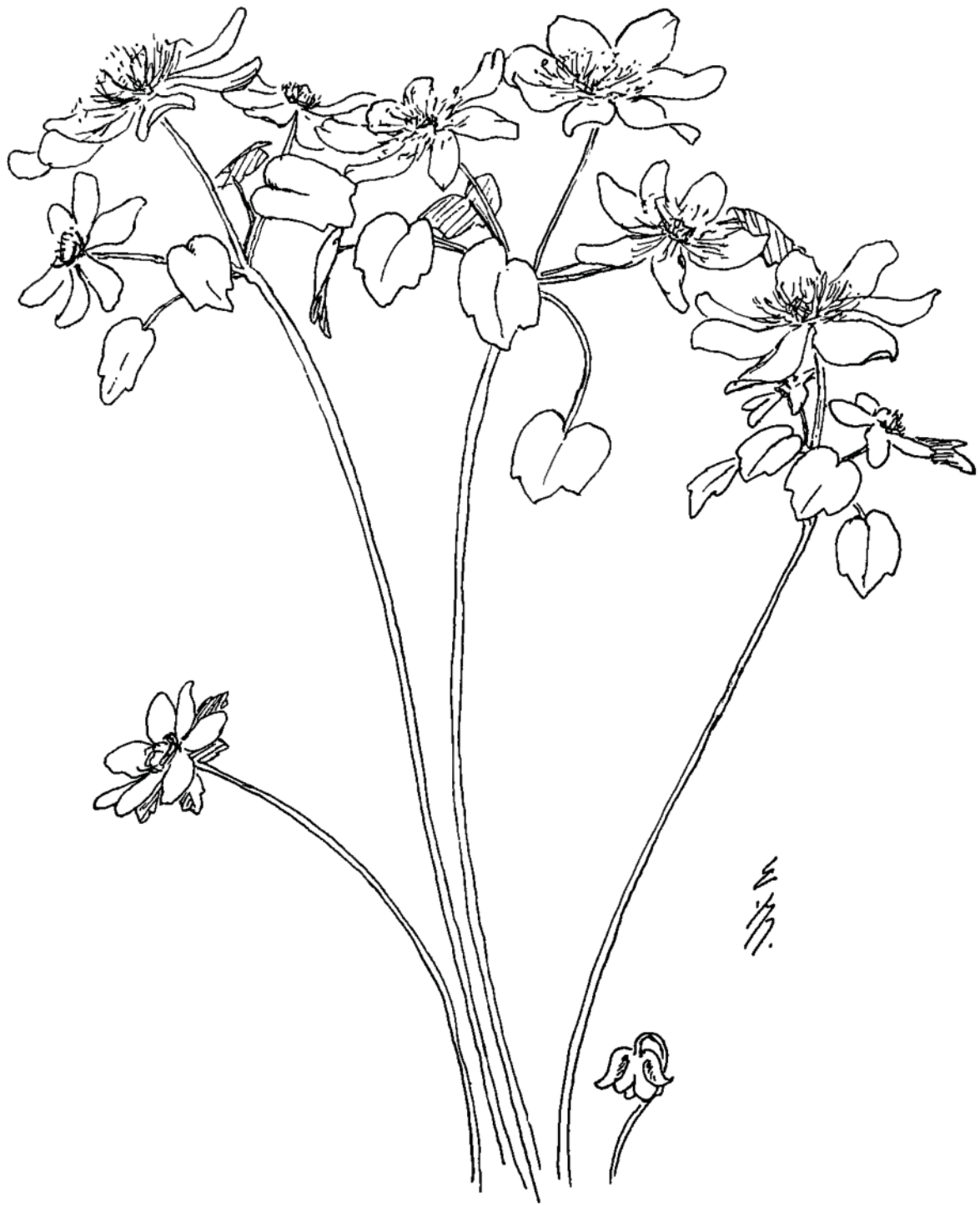
The leaf is compound, each part being set on a slender, rather long stem; the leaflets are small, broad, heart-shaped at the base, and 2- or 3-lobed near the tip; the texture is exceedingly fine, and smooth to the touch; the color is a dark grayish-green. The leaves form a whorl about the summit of the stalk, from which the flower-stems rise.



The flower is formed of 5 to 8 petal-like calyx-parts, which are oval, slightly convex, of a fine and delicate texture; in color, white, tinged with pale pink. The stamens are many, small, and orange yellow; the several pistils gathered in the center are green. The flowers are poised on slender stems, in groups, generally of 3, springing from the leaf-whorl.

The flowers and leaves rise from the earth together, the undeveloped flower, with bowed head, enfolded by the leaflets; as the plant pushes upward the blossoms grow, the central one developing first, the side ones later. At first the stamens and pistils are gathered together in a close green ball in the middle,—when the central flower has shaken out its yellow-tipped stamens fully, the side flowers begin to grow; thus the plant stays in bloom a long time—nearly two weeks.

Photos: (c)2007 Derek Ramsey (Ram-Man) (Self-photographed) [GFDL 1.2 (<http://www.gnu.org/licenses/old-licenses/fdl-1.2.html>)], via Wikimedia Commons



RUE ANEMONE: *Thalictrum thalictroides*.

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



## HEATH FAMILY.

ERICACEAE.

### Shinleaf.

*Pyrola elliptica.*

Found in the woods in June.

The little underground stalk throws up a few leaves, and a flower stem which reaches 6 or 8 inches in height.

The leaf is round, or oval, showing the midrib and veins, with an entire margin whose edge curls under, and a tough leathery fibre. It is evergreen, dark and strong in color, the ribs and veins being whitish.



It is set on a short, margined, reddish stem, which is protected at the ground by an enfolding dark sheath.

The 5 petals of the flower form a cup; they are thin and waxen in texture, and are pale greenish-white; the 10 yellow-tipped white stamens huddle all together in the upper part of the cup; the long curved pistil is down-bent; the calyx is 5-parted, flat, and green.

Several flowers on short, down-turned, green-reddish stems, are placed together upon a slender, erect, green stem which rises from the ground; it is tinted reddish at its base, and midway its length bears one small red-green bract.

There is a smack of individuality about this plant; it presents an appearance of being self-sufficing, and exclusive, though growing in more or less numerous companionship with its kindred.

Top photo:kbarton

Lower photo: Superior National Forest (Pyrola\_elliptica\_3 Uploaded by AlbertHerring) [CC BY 2.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0>)], via Wikimedia Commons



SHINLEAF: *Pyrola elliptica*.

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



## ARUM FAMILY.

ARACEÆ.

### Skunk Cabbage.

### *Symplocarpus foetidus.*

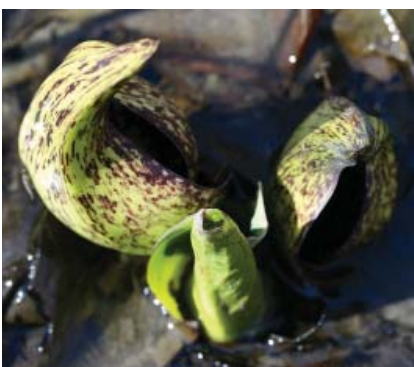
Found in March or early April, in damp meadows, and moist or swampy woodlands.

The leaves and hooded flower-clusters rise from the ground.

The large and conspicuous leaves, which do not unfold until the flowering season is past, vary from 1 to 2 feet in length, they are oval in shape with a blunt tip and heart-shaped base, have entire margins, firm texture, and smooth surfaces, and resemble the garden Day-Lily because of their many parallel ribs. In color a light clear green.



The unnoticeable 4-parted greenish-yellow flowers are gathered closely on a fleshy round club (that is about an inch in diameter) and enveloped by a protecting hood. This hood is large and sharp-pointed, of a very thick and leathery texture, with a smooth and dull glossy surface ; it is a dull brown or mahogany color, mottled or streaked with darker purple or red. From 1 to 3 or 4 of these hood-protected flower-heads are crowded close together, along with the rolled up leaf, in the hold of several dull greenish or slightly purple leaf-like parts which serve as weather blankets wrapped about the whole plant.



After the flowers mature the hood shrivels and falls away, the blankets disappear, and the pointed leaf-bud then unfolds, the leaves pushing forth with fine springing curves. The strong odor of the plant prevents close observation, and denies to it the praise its growth deserves. In habit it is highly gregarious, and favorable meadows are thickly sprinkled with these rich-hued hoods of our earliest spring flower.

Top photo by cmadler (Own work) [CC BY-SA 3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0>) or GFDL (<http://www.gnu.org/copyleft/fdl.html>)], via Wikimedia Commons

Lower photos: kbarton



SKUNK CABBAGE: *Symplocarpus foetidus*



## ORCHID FAMILY

ORCHIDACEAE.

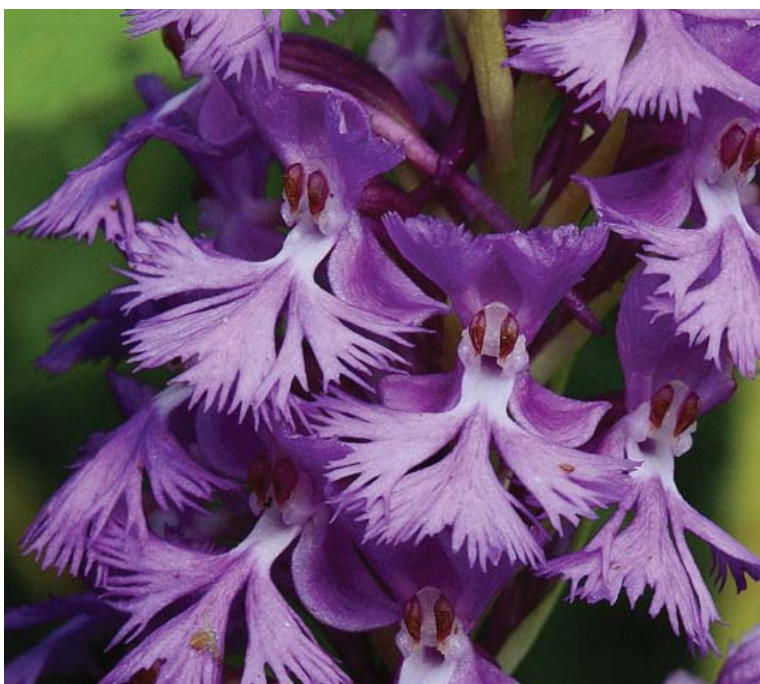
### Small Purple Fringed Orchid

*Platanthera psycodes*

Found by roadside springs, or in low damp meadows, during July and August.

The stalk is sparingly leafy, round and smooth, and varies in height from 1 to 3 feet; light green in color.

The long leaf is sharp-pointed at the tip, thin but tough in texture, and smooth; in color yellow-green, not dark. The leaves are few in number, clasping, and near the top somewhat sheath-like; they are placed alternately.



The flower is small; the lip fan-shaped, 3-cleft, and fringed; the other petals erect and fringed; the slender spur is curving, and longer than the foot-stem; the calyx-parts are small and rounded, one being erect and the two others spreading at the sides. The texture is fine, and the color is a clear light lilac, the spur being purplish-green. The curious little foot-stem looks like a rolled leaf; it is green, or slightly tinted pink. The flowers are placed in a terminal spire, springing from the angles of small pale green leaves (bracts).

Green at first, the lilac flush, overspreads the buds as they swell before the blossoms expand. It is an odorous flower, and

fortunately not uncommon. The spur is more curving than that of the Large Purple Fringed (*Platanthera grandiflora*), and the whole plant is more slender and less perfect in its details, yet it is sufficiently like its early sister to be taken for a belated specimen of *P. grandiflora* the when first espied amongst the tall grasses.

Top photo: Alan Cressler., Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Lower photo: R.W. Smith, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center



SMALL PURPLE FRINGED ORCHID: *Platanthera psychodes*.

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

## CARNATION FAMILY.

CARYOPHYLLACEAE.

### Soapwort

### Bouncing Bet.

*Saponaria officinalis.*

Found on dry soil, by the wayside and in the fields, blossoming in July through September.

The large leafy stalk, which grows from 1 to 2 feet high, is stout, slightly rough, and noticeably enlarged at the joints. Its color is green, or more often a dark crimson.

The oval leaf, tapering at the tip, clasps the stalk at the foot; it is 3-ribbed and the middle-rib being a little short the blade is fully to it on either side; it has a smooth surface, and is of a thick texture; the color is a grayish-green (usually dusty). The leaves are opposite in growth.

The flower is large, about 1 inch across, with 5 petals, broad and slightly notched at the top, and extended down into a narrow stem-like base, which is confined within the long cylindrical calyx; at the spread of the broad part of the petal are two little thread-like fringes. The color runs from white to pink, the 10 stamens are pale yellow, and the long, 5-notched calyx is a pale yellowish-green. The pistil divides at the tip into two curling spires.

Stocky and sturdy in growth, hearty and wholesome in nature, Bouncing Bet grows in great communities along the waysides, and railroad embankments; it is a little ragged in attire, owing to the habit the flowers have of drying up in the calyx. It looks its best under a gray sky.

Upper photo: TeunSpaans [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons

Lower photo: Patrick J. Alexander, hosted by the USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database



**BOUNCING BET: *Saponaria officinalis*.**

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

## ASTER FAMILY

### ASTERACEAE

# Spiny-leaved Sow Thistle.

*Sonchus asper.*

Found in cultivated fields, and along roadsides, in August.

The stalk is either simple, or branching near the top, from 2 to 3 or 4 feet high, large, round, and very hollow like a tube, and juicy; it is grooved, and smooth to the touch. The color is green, sometimes streaked with red near the foot.

The leaf is very long (sometimes 10 inches), lance-shaped with a tapering point, and noticeable rounded wing-like bases; the margin is deeply and irregularly toothed, and the edge is rolled under, thus making the teeth sharp-pointed, and stiff, like little spines; the midrib is prominent beneath, wide, flat, and pale above; underneath many veins show; the texture is thin, and the surface is smooth. The upper side is a cool clear green, the underside silvery, with a pale bloom. It is clasping, the prolonged bases flaring like wings on either side of the stalk.



The flowers are tiny and downy; light yellow in color; gathered in a flat-topped head (which is less than an inch across), enclosed in a small vase-shaped, green, and leafy cup. The heads are set on slender stems, in loose terminal groups, or singly on short leafy stems from the angles of the leaves; at the junction of these foot-stems small, oval leaves occur.

Nothing could be more suggestive of decorative design than the fine arch and spring of this leaf, with its ornamental winged clasps; and its refinement of color is an added excellence. The highly inappropriate folk-name (it is said to be a favorite article of diet among the English swine) should be abolished, and the plant called instead The Gothic Thistle in memory of a school who could appreciate its sculptural significance better than the moderns.

Top photo: [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons

Center photo: Doohamlm (Own work) [CC BY-SA 3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0>)], via Wikimedia Commons

Bottom photo: JK Marlow via <http://www.namethatplant.net>





SPINY-LEAVED SOW THISTLE: *Sonchus asper*.

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



## HEATH FAMILY

ERICACEAE

### Striped Pipsissewa Spotted Wintergreen.

*Chimaphila maculata.*

Found in dry woods, commonly under evergreen trees, in July.

The dull red, tough stem, 5 or 6 inches in height, bears one or two whorls of leaves.

The leaves, about 2 inches long, are tapering at the tip, with a few small notches on the margin; they are thick, and leathery, with a smooth surface, and are set in whorls of 4 or 5 on short foot-stems. In color, dark green, with the ribs marked out by broad lines of light.



In general form, the flower is much like that of the Pipsissewa. The petals are white, the stamens pale cream, and the pistil green.

This form of the Pipsissewa is less common in the New England than in the Middle States. Its variegated leaves are a pleasing, somewhat rare note in our winter leafage.

Photo credits:kbarton



SPOTTED WINTERGREEN: *Chimaphila maculata*

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





## ASTER FAMILY.

ASTERACEAE

### Stiff-leaved Aster Pine Aster.

*Ionactis linariifolia.*

Found chiefly on the edges of pine woods in September.

The stalk reaches from 1 to 2 feet in height; it is single, leafy, slender, and rough to the touch. In color, pale green, tinged with red.

The leaf is long, and narrow, with an entire margin; the surface covered with a minute down that is harsh to the touch; the fibre is stiff. The color is green. The leaves are set upon the stalk, irregularly, alternating, and numerous.

The disc flowers are yellow; the ray flowers, 12 to 20 in number, are long and slender, and pale bluish-lavender in color. The heads are few, and grow, on slender stems, either singly, or in a terminal flat-topped cluster.

The stiff edges of the leaves and their rigid bearing are not unlike the needles which carpet the favorite haunts this Aster loves. Though not pleasant to pluck, on account of its harsh texture, this is a very attractive plant to look upon.

Photo credit: ©David G. Smith, <http://delawarewildflowers.org>



**STIFF-LEAVED ASTER: *Ionactis linariifolia*.**

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

## ASTER FAMILY

ASTERACEAE

### Sweet Everlasting. Everlasting. Cudweed.

#### *Pseudognaphalium obtusifolium.*

Found in August and September, in dry fields, and open roadsides.

The stalk grows from 1 to 2 feet in height; it branches near the top, and is leafy all the way, of a stiff fibre, with a woolly surface. The color is green, the wool whitish.

The leaf is long, and narrow, with a strong midrib, and entire, or slightly irregular, margin; the under surface is woolly. In color gray-green, whitish underneath, because of the wool. The arrangement is clasping, and slightly hugging the stalk; alternate.

The tubular flower is small, and gathered into a close tuft; of a dull, light, tawny color, which turns darker with age. The tufted head is held tightly within a deep cup, composed of many shining white sheaths. The heads are set on foot-stems, in groups of 2 to 8, and arranged in terminal clusters.

When the ripened downy seed is ready to fly away, the closely folded little cups open wide. A full pleasant fragrance belongs to the blossoms.

Upper photo: R.W. Smith, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Lower photo: Fritzflohrr Reynolds (Own work) [CC BY-SA 3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>)], via Wikimedia Commons





SWEET EVERLASTING: *Pseudognaphalium obtusifolium*.

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



## BAYBERRY FAMILY.

MYRICACEAE.

### Sweet-fern.

#### *Comptonia peregrina.*

Found in April, on dry uplands and along copse borders.

A tough-fibred bush, from 1 to 2 feet high, with many low branches, very leafy, the bark rough, and reddish, or when old covered by a gray bloom.

The long narrow leaf is cut to the midrib into many narrow and irregular lobes, with an entire or slightly notched margin, and a thin texture; the surface is smooth above, and rough underneath; the color a cool strong green. The leaves are set on short foot-stems, placed irregularly and close together. They come following after the flower catkins.



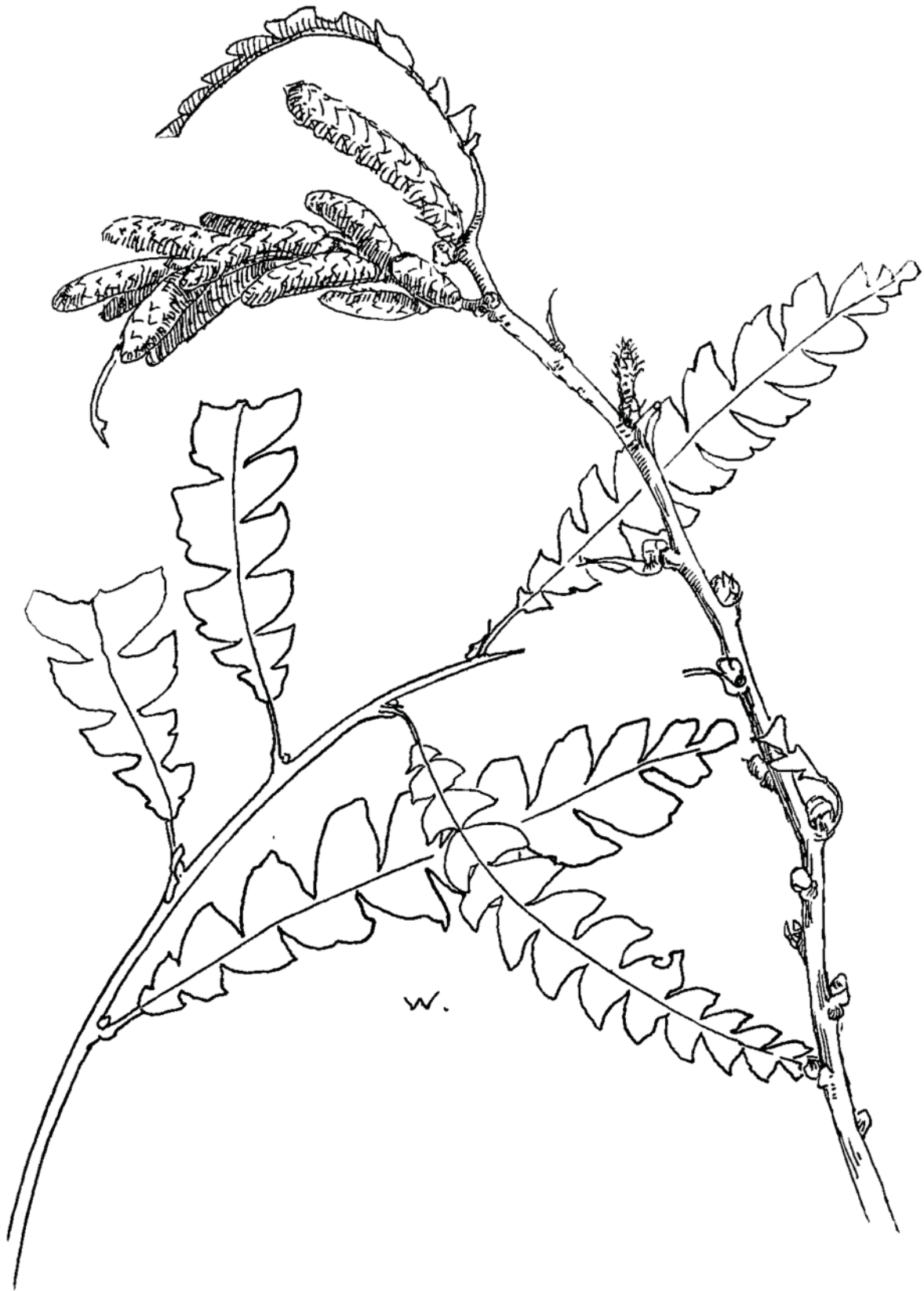
The pistil-bearing flowers gathered in an inconspicuous crimson cluster, like a scrubby little paint brush, and the stamen-bearing flowers, borne in the form of a slender green and brown catkin, are often found on the same plant; they grow close to the ends of the stalk in small groups.

After the blossom season is over, the plant puts forth its thick foliage, and so flavors the air from earliest spring till near midwinter, with the sweet aroma

which belongs to both leaf and flower. Though not evergreen, the dried leaves often cling to the bushes until the new growth displaces them. This is a genuine New England colonist of our sterile pasture hills, growing in large clumps and groups with hardy persistence.

Upper photo: Fungus Guy (Own work) [CC BY-SA 3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0>) or GFDL (<http://www.gnu.org/copyleft/fdl.html>)], via Wikimedia Commons

Lower photo credit: Jacqueline Donnelly, Saratoga woods and waterways; <http://saratogawoodswaters.blogspot.com>



SWEET-FERN: *Comptonia peregrina*.

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



## HEATH FAMILY.

### ERICACEAE

## Trailing Arbutus.

May flower.

Ground Laurel.

*Epigaea repens.*

Found in the woods, or clearings near woods, and upland pastures, during April. It particularly favors pine woods.

The branching leafy stalk is low, and trailing close to the ground under dry leaves and dead grass; it is tough and woody-fibred, and rough-hairy to the touch; rather slender. Its color is rusty brown, and very rich in tone.

The oval leaf is heart-shaped at the base, with a strong midrib which is somewhat taut and gives the entire margin usually an undulating character; the fibre is tough, and rough to the touch. The color is a strong positive green, more or less worm-eaten, and rust-spotted; it is evergreen. The leaves are set, on slender rough stems, alternately, at irregular intervals, and more closely near the flowers. The new leaves come after the blossoming time.



The flower has a tubular corolla, spreading into 5 rounded points; its color varies from an exquisite white to a deeply tinted rose; the inconspicuous stamens show only as a feathery, pale yellow ring in the centre. The 5-parted, pale green calyx is set around with 5 similar leafy bracts. The blossoms, on their little foot-stems, are gathered in close clusters along the ends of the stalk and branches. They exhale a sweet and spicy fragrance.

The plant, with its green and rusty leaves, hugs the earth so closely that often only the tips of the flowery clusters show here and there among the dried leaves, which almost conceal them from their friendly enemies, whose love of their beauty knows no better manner of exhibiting itself than by tearing the vine up by its roots. This selfish ignorance is fast exterminating the lovely flower in the populous districts of New England,—already it has become in certain places a mere tradition. As though in revenge, nature keeps fast the secret of its growth, and the Arbutus refuses to live in man's care for more than one or two seasons.

Photo credits: kbarton

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



ARBUTUS: *Epigaea repens*.



## PLANTAIN FAMILY.

### PLANTAGINACEAE.



## Turtle-head. Snake-head.

*Chelone glabra.*

Found, in low and swampy ground, during August and September.

The single stalk (from 1 to 2 or 3 feet high) is large, and square, and grooved on the two opposite sides; it is tough-fibred, and hollow; rigid in gesture. In color, a light yellowish-green.

The long, narrow, oval leaf tapers gradually to a long tip, has a sharply toothed margin, and strongly marked ribs; it is of a coarse tough fibre although its surface is smooth. Its color is dark green, lighter underneath. The leaves, on very short stems, occur in pairs.



This curious flower is 2-lipped; the upper lip is arched, and folded together with a slight notch in the middle of its margin, the lower lip is 3-lobed; the throat is compressed and filled within by woolly hairs. In texture the corolla is smooth and leathery; in color it is dull white, or sometimes tinged faintly with pink. Under the arched upper lip the tips of the dark, wool-covered stamens show. The calyx, formed of 5, distinct, oval, pale green parts, is surrounded by broader leafy bracts. The flowers grow in short, crowded, terminal clusters.

The resemblance to the turtle or snake is most apparent in the bud where the reptile-like mouth is quite pronounced. The plant lurks among the sedges of swampy lauds, and is generally unattractive, for its foliage is almost always so eaten by insects that a perfect leaf is rarely to be found.

Upper photo: W.D. and Dolphia Bransford, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Lower photo: R.W.Smith, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center



TURTLE-HEAD: *Chelone glabra*.

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



## ASTER FAMILY.

### ASTERACEAE.

## White Snake-root. Eupatorium.

### *Ageratina altissima.*

Found in rich moist soil, along the edges of woods and shaded roads, in August and September.

The stalk (from 2 to 4 feet high) branches a little, and is leafy; it is large, strong, fine-fibred, and smooth. In color, pale green, tinged with dull purple.

The leaf is large, broadly oval, taper-pointed, and widest at the base, with 3 marked ribs, a coarsely toothed margin, a thin texture, and smooth surface. The leaves are set on short stems, and are placed opposite each other on the stalk. The color is green.

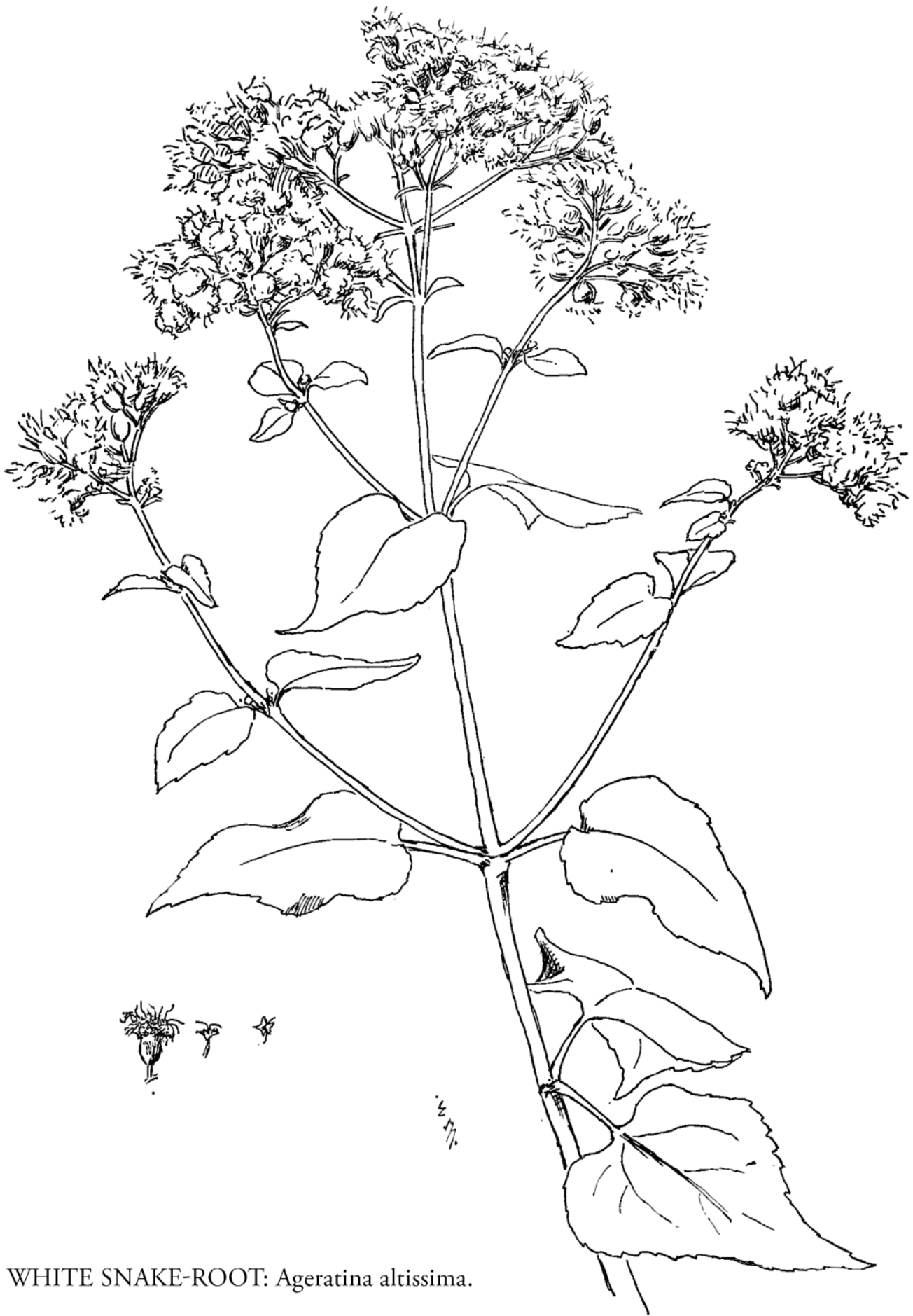


The minute flowers, and projecting pistils, are white; and grouped in small heads, enclosed in vase-shaped cups of green, on short stems. The heads are arranged in close, rather flat-topped clusters on the top of the stalk, and springing from the angles of the upper leaves.

This plant comes into bloom in company with its next of kin, Joe Pye and Boneset; it thrives well under cultivation, and certainly is worthy of a better name than “Snake-root,”—which is, perhaps, the reason it is so generally known by “Eupatorium,” the generic name it shares with so many others. It is much frequented by some small creature who leaves a pale labyrinthine trail etched on the broad surface of its leaves.

Upper photo: Hardyplants (Own work) [CC0], via Wikimedia Commons

Lower photo; By H. Zell (Own work) [GFDL (<http://www.gnu.org/copyleft/fdl.html>) or CC BY-SA 3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>)], via Wikimedia Commons



WHITE SNAKE-ROOT: *Ageratina altissima*.

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

## BUTTERCUP FAMILY

RANUNCULACEÆ

### Columbine.

#### *Aquilegia Canadensis.*



Found growing in the clefts of rocks, on sunlit heights, and along banks, during May or June.

The height of the stalk varies from 6 to 18 inches, and it branches widely; it is small, slightly enlarged at the joints, and somewhat square in shape, sometimes rough to the touch; the color is green, strongly tinged with purple-red.

The lower leaves are compound, with 3 leaflets, their margins round-toothed; the upper leaves are oval, or sometimes divided, their margins frequently entire; the texture is very thin and fine; the color light green. They are set on long, slender stems, or at the junction of the branches.



The flower varies a good deal in size; it consists of 5 tubular petals .that are prolonged into slender spurs with rounded tips; the calyx is 5-parted, the divisions of a long oval shape, which curve closely between the spurs, alternating with the tubes. The color of the tubes is a pure and lovely yellow, which becomes, by a beautiful gradation, a deep red in the spurs, their tips even tending toward crimson; the calyx is orange-red, running to yellow-green at the stem; the many long stamens hanging in a central tassel are very yellow. The flower nods on the end of a curved stem, with its spurs uppermost.

In early spring the plant consists of a thick tuft of leaves. While still very small the bud begins to turn from pale green to reddish. In maturity the seed-pods become erect. The singular elegance of this plant is only too well appreciated, for human greed plucks it in reckless handfuls, without regard to its possible extinction.

Upper photo: © Francis R. Underwood 2016

Lower photo: kbarton



COLUMBINE: *Aquilegia Canadensis*.

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

## GERANIUM FAMILY

GERANIACEÆ.

### Cranesbill. Wild Geranium.

*Geranium maculatum.*

Found in lush grass, or light shade, in fields and roadside banks, during May and June.

The stalk, single at first, but presently parting into twice-forking branches, is from 10 to 18 inches in height, and leafy above the branches; its surface is hairy, and color yellow-green.

The large leaf is 3- to 5-times divided with sharp-pointed tips, an irregularly toothed margin, distinctly showing ribs, hairy surface; yellowish-green in color. The leaves are set on stems in pairs, or near the flowers are placed close together and immediately upon the stalk. The size is variable, but often quite large.



The flower has 5 rounded petals that are somewhat bearded at the base; their texture is so fine it plainly shows the veins, the surface is very smooth, their edges slightly curve, and the color is a delicate pinkish-lavender; the calyx with its 5 needle-pointed tips is hairy, and light green; the 10 long stamens are spreading, and the pistil is 5-parted. The flowers, on short stems, are set in pairs, or in a loose, leafy terminal group.

At the Joints of the stems are a pair of leaves and several tiny leafkins. Though set in occasional pairs the blossoms open one at a time. It is noticeable that the flowers which open in cool weather, or in a shady place, are almost crimson in hue, the color being always very variable. The leafage is especially brilliant in autumn, and sometimes as early as July a leaf will be found turned to a vivid scarlet-red. The curious and decorative seed-vessel gives the plant its fantastic folk-name.

Photo credits: kbarton



CRANESBILL: *Geranium maculatum*.





IRIS FAMILY.

IRIDACEAE.

**Wild Iris.  
Larger Blue Flag.**

*Iris versicolor.*

Found by runlets and in moist meadows, in June.

The rootstock sends up several leaves ensheathing the flower-stem.

The leaf is sword-shaped, long, narrow, and pointed, with, a narrow, light, ribbon-like finish to its edge; the inconspicuous ribs are grass-like. Its color is a cool, light green, with traces of dull violet near the foot. Several leaves overlap one another at the base.



The flower is large, with 9 petal-like parts, growing in sets of threes ; the 3 outer parts are broad, spreading, and curving downwards more or less,—in color violet, marked with white and yellow, and delicately lined with dark violet ; the 3 parts that alternate with these are smaller, erect, and taper to a narrow foot at the base,—in color they are violet ; the pistil is in 3 petal-like parts, which curve back, over the broad outer divisions, with a fine arch (under which the stamens may be found),—they are cleft at the tips, and in color are violet, darker at the tips, and reddish on the arch. The texture of the flower is exceedingly fine and delicate.

It grows from the summit of the 3-angled green seed-case, which is borne on a tall, leafy, green stem ; this stem is slightly flattened on opposite sides, and is smooth and polished of surface.

The ancients, who named this flower Iris, had a true appreciation of its rainbow-like qualities ; its texture is so ethereal that it seems to float in the grass, and to fade before our eyes like its evanescent namesake. It however replaces one day's bloom by another flowering, and keeps up a prolonged succession of blossoms from day to day.

*“The fleur-de-lys, which is the flower of chivalry, has a sword for its leaf, and a lily for its heart.”*

—Ruskin.

Upper photo: John Hixson, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Lower photo: Bennie Bengston, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

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



WILD IRIS: *Iris versicolor*



Lily Family

LILIACEAE

## Wild Oat. Sessile-leaved Bellwort.

*Uvularia sessilifolia.*

Found in May, in moist shade; in frequent neighborhood with the Bellwort.

The stalk, from 6 to 8 inches high, is very like its cousin Bellwort, but is more slender and bears a leaf beneath the fork of its branches; it is also greener in hue.

The oval, or long-pointed, entire, leaf is smooth above, and ridgy beneath. Of a beautiful light green color. The leaves are arranged in pairs at the flower, and alternately; they are half-clasping, and hang lightly.



Seed head of Wild Oat

The flower is smaller than the Perfoliate Bellwort blossom, and the 3-parted pale yellow pistil protrudes conspicuously. The color is pale straw-yellow. The bell hangs on a slender stem that springs from beneath a leaf, on the underside of the branch.

Seldom more than one of these shy bells is found hiding under a branch. Possibly the tips curve outward more than those of the Perfoliate Bellwort's flower.

Upper photo credit: Bennie Bengston, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center.

Lower photo credit: Christopher Noll, via UW-System WisFlora. 2016. <http://wisflora.herbarium.wisc.edu/index.php>. Accessed on March 03.



WILD OAT: *Uvularia sessilifolia*.

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



## HOLLY FAMILY.

AQUIFOLIACEAE.

Winterberry.  
Black Alder.  
Christmas Berry.

*Ilex verticillata.*



Found in moist wayside thickets, and on the borders of small streams; the inconspicuous flowers opening in June and July, and the bright berries ripening in October.

This shrub is from 3 to 5 or 8 feet high, and has a round, tough stem, covered with a smooth dark gray bark.

The small oval leaf, tapering at both ends, is thin, and smooth above, but slightly woolly on the ribs beneath; the color is a strong, full green.

The small, inconspicuous flower has 4, 5, 6, and sometimes 7 or 8, small rounded divisions, and an equal number of tiny stamens; these pale, greenish flowers are clustered close to the stem, in the angles of the leaves, on the ends of the branches.

The bright red berries, about the size of a small pea, glow under the green leaves in early October, and later, among the gray twiggery they are like coals of fire.



Top photo: Julie Makin, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Flower photo: Julie Makin, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Berries: SB\_Johnny (Own work) [GFDL (<http://www.gnu.org/copyleft/fdl.html>), CC-BY-SA-3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>) or CC BY-SA 2.5-2.0-1.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.5-2.0-1.0/>)], via Wikimedia Commons\

Berries in Snow: Julie Makin, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center





WINTERBERRY: *Ilex verticillata*.

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



## HEATH FAMILY.

ERICACEAE.

### Wintergreen.

#### *Gaultheria procumbens.*

Found during July in woods, and along the edges of woods.

The creeping stalk sends up an erect stem, leafy at the top, about 4 or 5 inches high, woody-fibred and tough, and smooth to the touch. Its color is green,—red toward the root.

The leaf is a broad oval, with a rounded tip, an obscurely notched margin, of a tough and thick fibre, and smooth, polished surface. It is ever-green: when old a dark green, often bronzy; more yellow-green, tinged with dull red, when young. The alternate leaves, on very short stems, are clustered at the top of the stalk.

The small bell-shaped flower is minutely 5-parted, and all white. The flowers, on short curving stems, grow singly from the angles of the leaves, hanging their bells downward.



The fruit is round and small, a bright cherry red in color; it ripens in the fall and remains throughout snow-time, always ready to lend its glowing color, with the bronzy leaves that surround it, to a winter bouquet from the woods. The new shoots put forth from the ground in June, and are called “youngsters” in the country; they have an aromatic, pungent flavor, and going “youngstering” is a favorite diversion of childhood. The plant is a great colonist, and year after year its plantations thrive in the same localities.



Top photo: Jomegat (Own work) [CC BY-SA 3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0>) or GFDL (<http://www.gnu.org/copyleft/fdl.html>)], via Wikimedia Commons

Center photo: Phil Patrie, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Bottom photo: John Delano of Hammond, Indiana, via wikimedia commons



WINTERGREEN: *Gaultheria procumbens*

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



## WITCH HAZEL FAMILY.

HAMAMELIDACEAE.

Witch Hazel.

Wych Hazel.

*Hamamelis virginiana.*

Found from late September to November, by woodland pools,—near water always.



This is a shrub, or small tree, from 6 to 12 feet in height, with wide-spreading branches, very tough fibre, and a tight, firm bark, smooth and shining at the tips, of a mottled gray-brown color.

The large oval leaf, with its broad, flat shape, has a wavy and irregularly notched margin, many strong ribs, a tough texture, and a surface which is shining above, and hairy along the underside of the ribs; of a vigorous green color,—in autumn a strong gray-yellow. The leaves, on stout little foot-stems, are alternate.



The flower has 4 slender ribbons for petals, and 8 stamens (only 4 of which bear anthers), of a delicate greenish-yellow color; the calyx is small, and parted into 4 sharp divisions which show in the form of a square between the petals; it is downy, thin, and pale tawny in color. Beneath the calyx are 2 or 3 little bracts; and tough, bark-like, brown outer bracts hold 2 or 3 flowers in a close group upon a short stem; these groups are scattered all along the branches in the angles of the leaves.



Nothing of the spring approaches the mystery of this flower. Late in autumn the straggling Witch Hazel bushes, standing about a pool of dark water in front of bare woods, lift their full tawny leafage and evasive pale golden bloom against the lavender twiggery, and purple-gray sky, filling the air with their strange fragrance. Their seeds ripen during the following summer; they are brown, and nut-like, and the pods will burst with a subdued “pop-pop” if taken into a warm room.

Top photo Sally and Andy Wasowski, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Leaf photo: R.W. Smith, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Flower photo: kbarton

Fruit photo: Julie Makin, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center



WITCH HAZEL: *Hamamelis virginiana*.

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

## BUTTERCUP FAMILY.

RANUNCULACEAE.

**Wind Flower.**

**Wood Anemone.**

*Anemone quinquefolia.*

Found in thickets that yet are open to the sun, in early May or perhaps late in April.



The single stem, about 6 inches in height, is round and smooth and green, showing purple at the foot. It bears a whorl of leaves about midway its height, and a single flower upon its summit.



The compound leaf has from 3 to 9 wedge-shaped leaflets, that are slightly creased on their midribs, and irregularly notched on the edges; the texture is delicately thin, and the color a lovely green. Three leaves on their short reddish stems are placed in a whorl.

The flower is like a shallow cup formed of 5 oval, petal-like calyx-parts that curve like shells; it is of a very thin texture and slightly veined, and its color is pure white, often rosy tinted on the outside; the many dainty stamens are a pale straw color, and the pistils are gathered into a light green center.

A more charming plant could hardly be imagined,—stem, leaf, and blossom are alike perfect in growth and harmony of hue. Its bud nods, but the fully open flower lifts itself lightly atop the slender swaying stem. The Wind Flower is social in habit, and gathers in lovely fellowship with its kind upon a favorable hillside.

Top photo: W.D. and Dolphia Bransford, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Bottom photo: Photo credit: ©David G. Smith, <http://delawarewildflowers.org>



WIND FLOWER: *Anemone quinquefolia*.

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



## LILY FAMILY.

LILIACEAE.

Wood Lily.

Flame Lily.

*Lilium philadelphicum.*

Found in upland meadows, woods, and along copse-borders in July.

The stalk grows from 1 to 2 feet high; it is single, leafy, and strong-fibred and smooth; in color a purplish-green.

The leaf is long, narrow, and pointed, of a firm strong texture, and smooth surface. The color is a full-toned green. The leaves are placed upon the stalk, in whorls of 5 or more, with an occasional one, escaping regularity, lodged between.

The 6 petal-like parts of the large flower-bell are narrowed at their bases into little stems; 3 of the parts have pronounced midribs. The color of this Lily is orange-red, or flame, irregularly marked on the inside with large spots of reddish brown; the 6 stamens, and the pistil, have reddish-brown tips. Usually a single flower, but sometimes two, on slender stems, are erect upon the top of the stalk.

While the general direction of the stalk is upright the flower sways from side to side with a free grace of movement. Sometimes a single plant will stray into some little open clearing of a lonely wood where its flame warms the whole space; or again its bell swings out from the rocky slope of a mountain pasture. Near the seaboard it grows in communities, where its color, intensified by the sea air, gives it the folk-name of "Flame Lily." The plant is said to be especially indifferent to drought.

Photo credits: kbarton



WOOD LILY: *Lilium philadelphicum*.

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



## STAR-GRASS FAMILY

HYPOXIDACEAE

### Yellow Star Grass Star Grass.

*Hypoxis hirsuta.*

Found in grassy pastures and fields from May to the end of June.

The leaves and flower-stems, from 6 to 8 inches in height, rise together from the ground.

The long, narrow leaf is slightly grooved, with a marked midrib, and a strong fibre ; in color, as well as shape, it resembles the grass it grows amidst.



The 6 petal-like, pointed parts of the flower are smooth on the inside and downy without ; they spread flat to show the 6 yellow stamens ; the inside of the flower is bright yellow, the outside tinged with green. Three or four flowers grow on the summit of the slender shining green stem.

The swing of the curving leaf-blades is admirably graceful.

Upper photo: kbarton

Lower photo credit: © Francis R. Underwood 2016



STAR GRASS: *Hypoxis hirsuta*

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





## VIOLET FAMILY

VIOLACEÆ

### Downy Yellow Violet. Yellow Wood Violet

*Viola pubescens.*

Found in woods and moist shade, in May.

The branching, leafy, slightly angular stalk is shining near the foot, but hairy above, and grows from 5 to 12 inches high. It is light green. Near the foot a small sheathing leaf may be observed.

The leaf is large, usually broader than it is long, and varying in form from a round-pointed to a sharp-pointed shape; its ribs show plainly underneath, its margin is slightly notched, and the surface is soft and downy to the touch; in color, a clear green, lighter underneath. The leaves, on their long, grooved stems, grow alternately, with a pair of up-pointing little wings at the joint.

The lower petal of the flower is scoop-shaped, shallow and short, and notched into two scallops at the tip, with a very short spur; the 4 other petals are rounding and nearly equal in size. In color, a pure golden-yellow, with many dark markings on the lower petal, and fainter lines on the others. The single flowers grow on slender stems from the angles of the leaves.

The branches are wide-spreading, and the flower-stem springs away from the leaves with a decided gesture, nor does the Yellow Violet bend its head; the leaves are generally flat in manner of growth save for the little scoop at the stem. A few separate leaves on independent stems rise about the foot of the flowering stalk. This plant bears a profusion of blossoms, and continues to flower for a considerable time.

Photo credit: kbarton



DOWNY YELLOW VIOLET: *Viola pubescens*.

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