

Native Plant News

NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH CAROLINA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Native Plant News
Oct.—Nov. 2010
kathyschlosser@triad.rr.com

October—November 2010
ISSN: 2151-2159

New Invasive in N.C. : Mile-a-minute vine

North Carolina has been added to the list of states invaded by what is defined as a Class A Noxious Weed under our State Noxious Weed regulations: *Persicaria perfoliata*, mile-a-minute vine.

First reported in this country in Oregon in 1890, then again in Beltsville, MD in 1937—neither population surviving long enough to spread, it wasn't noticed again in late in the 1930's. A nursery in York, PA established the first successful population after planting holly seeds from Japan. An interesting plant, the nursery owner allowed it to grow, and after some time tried, unsuccessfully, to eradicate the plants. It now infests CT, DE, MA, MD, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, VA, WVA, and Washington, DC—and now North Carolina. (1)

An occurrence of *P. perfoliata* in NC was in Wake Co. in 2000, with two plants in potted hostas in a greenhouse. (2) Those were identified by Dan Wall with the NCDA&CS and eradicated.

There are now three separate populations in Alleghany County, "with the largest engulfing a disturbed roadside embankment." (3) The first was found in 2008 in Piney Creek Township. Since then, two other have been found—another in Piney Creek Twp. and one in Prathers Creek Twp.

Rick Iverson (pers. comm. 2010 with Derick Pointdexter, ASU) hypothesizes that the plant found its way here in bales of hay brought in during 2007 drought.

Whatever its means of entry, it is here now and needs watching and eradication. Birds are apparently the most likely means of long distance dispersal, and as the vine is a prolific

seed producer, and an aggressive grower, scrambling over everything in its path, we could soon find plants across the state.

It is easy to identify from its triangular leaves, re-curved barbs on leaves and stems, small flowers in an ocrea (circular 'leaf' along the stem), which then produce attractive blue fruits.

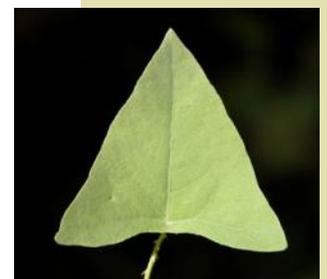
It is an annual that comes back in the spring stronger than ever.

If you see what you suspect is this plant, contact Rob Baldwin, NCDA & CS Plant Protection Specialist

336-466-0478
<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/fact/pepe1.htm>

For more details, visit the Plant Conservation Alliance Alien Plant Working Group:

<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/fact/pepe1.htm>



Persicaria perfoliata, Mile-A-Minute vine



President's Message



Since our last newsletter we have had rain!! Not like the coast but enough to perk things up a bit. Now wouldn't you know – the mountains had snow so green is going to be a memory soon. But, as I walked in the garden today I was struck that I was already excited about what would be up next year. I know, I know, don't wish your life away and look for only tomorrow so I sat on my obsessive compulsive patio (that's another story) and slowly looked around. Man is nature great – there is always something to see, to watch change, to enjoy. So no, I'm not wishing my life away but enjoying every minute and excited for the future. I just can't believe how much fun it is to learn new stuff that I had missed before. Perhaps that has been the influence of our Society on me – to learn about NC natives.

I would like to credit David McAdoo for providing some inspiration to learn more and to pass that knowledge on. Early on when the Society decided to produce a web site, David let us use his vast collection of native orchid pictures in our plant gallery. We even set up a separate section so you could view the orchids without having to click on each different name. Then David suggested that we set up a section for NC carnivorous plants, which we did. We still need a few photos but it really is a treat to

see a group of natives one right after another. Just a few weeks ago, I was posting a new Trillium picture and it struck me, why not another group? So I called Mark Rose and got a CD full of Trillium photos and we now have an NC Trillium section. Oh, there are other Trilliums but you must view them individually. Are you with me? What if someone wanted to make sure we had all the NC *Houstonia* or *Uvularia* or *Hexastylis* or poisonous plants (to touch, to eat) or what ever group that strikes your fancy? So gather your photos and take new ones and let's build some more groups so anyone can see our great flora.

By the way, set aside the first weekend in May for the spring walk. It looks like another winner!

See you in the woods
Tom

Board of Directors

TOM HARVILLE, PRESIDENT
tomhar@bellsouth.net

LYNDA WALDREP, VICE PRESIDENT
lyndawaldrep@aol.com

ULANA STUART, SECRETARY
ulanastuart@gmail.com

JEFF PRATHER, TREASURER
jandcprather@earthlink.net

KATHY SCHLOSSER, EDITOR; TRIAD CHAPTER
kathyschlosser@triad.rr.com

JEAN WOODS, EDUCATION
jean14424@aol.com

ALICE ZAWADZKI, SPECIAL PROJECTS
alice@ncwildflower.org

MARK ROSE, AT LARGE
trilliumboy@yahoo.com

DAVID McADOO, AT LARGE
dmcadoo@triad.rr.com

LARRY MELLICHAMP, AT LARGE
lmellichamp@carolina.rr.com

MARGARET PARTRIDGE, TRIANGLE CHAPTER
afm500@bellsouth.net

LISA TOMPKINS, CHARLOTTE CHAPTER
lestompkins@windstream.net

LARA BERKLEY, WILMINGTON CHAPTER
lara@b-and-o.net

CARY PAYNTER, WILMINGTON CHAPTER
dmpaynter@earthlink.net

MITCH RUSSELL, WESTERN NC CHAPTER
greenuffect@gmail.com

KATHY MITCHELL, NE COAST CHAPTER
katherine.mitchell@ncaquariums.com

SUSAN RUIZ-EVANS, NE COAST CHAPTER
susan_ruiz-evans@ncsu.edu

TRACY RUSH, MOORE COUNTY CHAPTER
mtrush@earthlink.net

Nancy Saint, T-shirts
gnsaint@bellsouth.net

WEBMASTER: TERRY BRITTON
tbritton@gmail.com



Dragonfly on Pitcher Plant, Jeff Prather.



Fresh Look at Dupont State Forest

Dupont State Forest

Silverbells
Halesia tetrapetala

Clethra acuminata
 Mt. Sweet Pepperbush

hotbird leaved
Violet v. halsrata

The Little River

water shed has a unique growth of sage of

clethra's shreddy bark

diocaine

yellowroot

Rhododendron

only germinates in moss, not where there are leaves.

Sweet Shrub
 Two hours before dark the flowers open up and the fragrance attracts a little evening beetle (2-3 mm) which feeds on the little food bodies in center of flower. Then the flower closes up. It sheds its pollen in the morning, gets on the beetle, opens up, and the beetle flies off to ... pollinate another.

5/1/10

2 very early yellow violet
v. rotundifolia

Betty Lou and David Chaika were among those who went on the Dupont State Forest trip last spring. While some of us took cameras with us to record what we saw that weekend, Betty Lou had another, and much more creative, way.

On returning to the hotel, Betty Lou pulled out her sketch books and paints, and set about the task of transferring her notes to a lovely journal.

She shares some of those pages here and on following pages, and hopes that this will inspire some of the rest of us to try her method.

lots of buffalo nut
pyralia
 parasitic on tree roots (hemlocks here)

"The loss of the hemlocks is going to be even worse than the loss of the chestnuts."
 - Larry Mellichamp

Mr. Sweet Arden

Painted Trillium
 cannot be grown at home

Lacothoe fontanaensis

Huge Fir
Magnolia
 tiny bark squares

Gaylussacia frandosa
 10 seeds

To Triple Falls

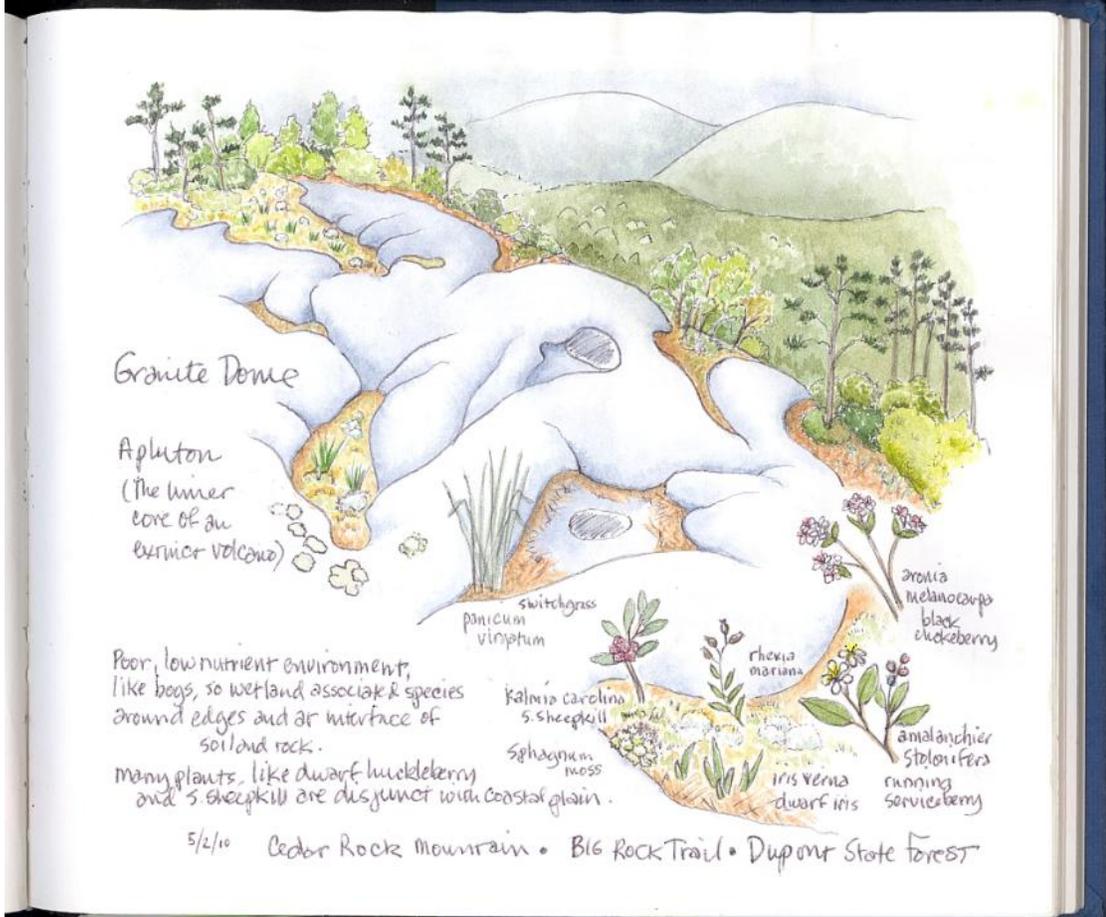
My ferns
Hayscourti
mitcheella repens

Blue Ridge Escarpment

Indian Cucumber
 It is less steep has greater meanders, so lots of wetlands, exposed rock, and uncommon species.

v. blanda
 Sweet White Violet

h. rhombiformis
 French Broad Heartleaf is endemic also Mr. Sweet pitcher plants.





NCNPS Giving

One of the jobs of your board of directors is to manage our money. This year, the board considered several requests, and gave the following:

- 1. October 2010. We made a \$300 donation to the Land Trust for Central North Carolina in appreciation of their help with the Fall Field Trip to the Uwharries.
- 2. August 2010. The Daniel Boone Native Garden in Boone, NC was given \$975.00 from the B. W. Wells Fund.

- 3. August 2010. A donation was made to the Nikolah & Kyla Phillips Padgett Memorial Fund in the amount of \$100.00.
- 4. July 2010. Four full scholarships were awarded for the Cullowhee Native Plant Conference \$1,400.00.

Jeff Prather, Treasurer



Mark Rose & friend

Shinn Grants

You may not be aware of it, but our Native Plant Society sponsors two Tom & Bruce Shinn Grants (up to \$1000.00 each). These grants are intended to support basic or applied research on native plants in botanical or horticultural areas that fulfill the mission and/or objectives of the North Carolina Native Plant Society.

The grants will be awarded to United States citizens attending North Carolina schools who are either graduate students or qualified undergraduate students working on projects with an advisor.

The application process is outlined on our web site and can be found at <http://www.ncwildflower.org/scholarships/shinn.htm>.

If you are a student or know of students who are eligible for a grant please encourage them to apply. The deadline for submission for next year's awards is the end of February 2011. If you have any questions about the grants or the process, contact David McAdoo by email (david@ncwildflower.org) or phone (336) 996-2324.

WHAT I LOVE MOST ABOUT DEADLINES IS THE WHOOSHING SOUND THEY MAKE AS THEY GO BY. -- DOUGLAS ADAMS



Kosteletzkya virginica, saltmarsh mallow. Taken in August by Jack Spruill near Hampstead NC



Southeast Coast Chapter in the news

The magazine *Coastwatch* recently had a feature article about the activities and members of the Southeast Coast Chapter:

“To paraphrase a popular saying: Neither torrential rain nor the heat of day can dampen the enthusiasm of native plant lovers as they make their appointed rounds in pursuit of their passion.

On a recent visit to Airlie Gardens in Wilmington, a soft drizzle turns into a drenching down-pour as Cary Paynter and Lara Berkley climb aboard an open golf cart for an up-close look at native plants that abound along the gar-

den's nature trail. The women, members of the Southeast Chapter of the N.C. Native Plant Society, seem undaunted by the worsening weather.

Berkley, her hair dripping wet, laughs good-naturedly, saying, "This is the kind of drama all nature lovers thrive on. It just makes us more enthusiastic."

The full article can be found at

<http://www.ncseagrant.org/home/coastwatch?task=showArticle&view=listarticles&id=676>

Lara Berkley

I GO TO NATURE
TO BE SOOTHED
AND HEALED,
AND TO HAVE
MY SENSES PUT
IN ORDER.

~JOHN
BURROUGHS

Northeast Coast Chapter

We had a ranger-led walk & paddle at Merchant's Millpond State Park on April 20th with 10 participants.

Buxton Woods Reserve hike on May 6th, 13 participants including Bo Dame, northern sites manager for the NC Coastal Reserves, and Dr. Alexander Krings.

Kathy Mitchell
Conservation Horticulturist
NC Aquarium on Roanoke Island
Manteo, NC

Triad Chapter

The Triad Chapter started its program year with a presentation on the Friends of Plant Conservation group by Kathy Schlosser; in October Trena McNabb described the process she used to convert a utility right of way in her back yard to a meadow, and November brought a presentation by Lynda Waldrep on excerpts of the Doug Tallamy tape.

Our December program will be the 4th Annual Native Plant and Butterfly Members Photography Show. This is a joint program with the local chapter of the Carolina Butter

fly Society having joined us 3 years ago for the holiday program.

Walks will be resumed as weather and interest permits, and a visit will be made to Highland Farms, a Sustainable Sites grant recipient. We hope to be able to assist them with native plant identification.

Lynda Waldrep, David McAdoo and Mark Rose are assisting with program planning.



Seabeach amaranth,
Amaranthus pumilus

Threatened:

The most serious threats to the continued existence of Seabeach amaranth include the construction of beach stabilization structures, beach erosion and tidal inundation, beach grooming, herbivory by insects and feral animals and, in certain circumstances, by off-road vehicles.



Charlotte Chapter

The September meeting featured Trena McNabb on Meadow Marking and a Prairie Hike

In October, 10 members assisted with seed collecting at Latta Prairie, led by Gary Marshall, Char/Meck Parks and Rec .

The November meeting will center on Butterfly

Garden Restoration at Reedy Creek Nature Center.

On December 12th we will have a presentation by a Warren Wilson College student on Sustainable Propagation of *Mitchella repens* and our Holiday Celebration with Wildflower Gift Exchange at the Reedy Creek Nature Center.

Lisa Tompkins

BEWARE ALL ENTERPRISES THAT REQUIRE NEW CLOTHES.

HENRY THOREAU
1854

Green & Growin' Show

NCNPS will again host a booth at the North Carolina Nursery & Landscape Association's Green & Growin' Show set for Jan. 13 and 14, 2011, at the Greensboro Coliseum.

Members who are willing to assist in manning the booth should contact Lynda Waldrep -

lyndawaldrep@aol.com. Ideas for our display are most welcome.

Last year more than 300 people stopped by, and NCNPS appreciates this opportunity to share information with growers and other personnel involved in the industry.

Lynda

Nancy Saint joins board

Nancy Saint (center in photo to right) was recently welcomed to the NCNPS board of directors. She has volunteered to take charge of organizing the sales of our t-shirts, in addition to adding her knowledge and experience to the board.

Remember that t-shirts are still available, and you can get them by contacting Nancy, who lives in Statesville.

Nancy's phone: 704-878-2817

Email: gnsaint@bellsouth.net



Jeannie Kraus snaps a photo on the Uwharrie trip.



From the journal of Kelly Hines, Shinn recipient

17 August 2010

As the alarm abruptly goes off at 6am, somewhere in my sleepy mind a voice of reason immediately knows its late August and thus, the earlier the better. I roll out of bed and dress in the appropriate field clothing; thick Carhartts and a lightweight long-sleeved white shirt. It's going to be a scorcher today with a high of 98 degrees and high humidity. I slather on the sunscreen, think cool thoughts and tell myself I love North Carolina's seasonality. The plants are waiting.

Johnston County welcomes me as I transition from outer Piedmont to inner Coastal Plain....well, at least defined by the books; we all know there are no natural boundaries in nature. Howell Woods is one of the largest tracts remaining of undeveloped land in Johnston County and lies in the Neuse River flood plain. It is home to an environmental learning center and a dedicated staff who manages it well. I think about the day ahead and what part of the 2800 acres I need to visit. Much of the property is Coastal Plain Bottomland Hardwoods (brownwater subtype), but closer to the learning center the Diversity Trail system winds its way around, what I think, is a historical Long Leaf Pine (*Pinus palustris*) ridge bordered by bottomland forest. Recent finds in this area have been the rare yellow morph of the common Orange Milkwork (*Polygala lutea*) and the uncommon *Eupatorium semiserratum*, seemingly fairly common here. My mind flits to the Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*) and the Carolina Bogmint (*Macbridea caroliniana*), both amazingly beautiful flowers and the latter threatened in North Carolina. I have been stalking these two species for weeks.

I first decide to visit my open, sandy, dry, full sun upland area in the morning before the heat gets unbearably oppressive. I did not find much more here than the common *Phytolacca americana* and dry loving sedges. It's starting to get very hot and I'm grateful for the water I carry on my back; there is a real risk for heat stroke while doing summer fieldwork in NC and safety is a priority. As the sun beats down, I'm looking forward to my

visit to the Coastal Plain Small Stream Swamp dubbed Reedy Marsh. This area is seasonally inundated with water and dries to a small tributary of the Neuse in the dry season. In Reedy Marsh there is an abundance of mosquitoes and I find myself crossing a muddy area via a fallen log and just as I had a snake sighting, I looked up to a firey red stalk of flowers, right in front of me. Yes! What a beautiful specimen of the Cardinal Flower! "The heat is so worth it!" I thought in my head. Satisfied with my catch of the day and almost lunchtime, I need to check one more site before leaving.

Right along the roadside, in an area close to the transition zone between a moist pocosin-like area and a sandy savanna, the rare Carolina Bogmint grows 40-50 miles north of its range. Harry LeGrand first discovered this locality in 2001 when surveying Johnston County for significant natural areas for the Natural Heritage Program. Today was my day, because after repeated visits since early July, it was finally in bloom! It has a very conspicuous lavender-to-white corolla and the blooms emerge in a decussate pattern. I collect one specimen as a voucher for my flora and am excited to return when the others are in full bloom. I wonder if mowing the roads so close to the sides has a positive or negative effect on this population?

As I drive to campus to complete the second half of my day filled with pressing and making labels, I know that I really DO love North Carolina's seasonality. The heat is just a passing thing, because you know what? I found two beautiful plants today (among the bags of grasses, sedges, *Solidagos* and a *Smilax hispida*) and I have been on the lookout for weeks! It is a very satisfying feeling and I take extra care when pressing my found specimens. I know I'll come back next week and the week after next and I will continue to find neat flora, but sometimes other days will stick in my mind better than the rest....a day when you've collected something new, something significant. Today has just been one of those days....a day in the life of a plant stalker!



Lobelia cardinalis



Macbridea caroliniana

KELLY HINES
WAS A 2009-
2010 SHINN
GRANT
RECIPIENT.



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Recognizes Recovery Champions

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently recognized Richard LeBlond and Hervey McIver as Recovery Champions for their work toward the recovery of Golden sedge (*Carex lutea*), Cooley's meadowrue (*Thalictrum cooleyi*) and other rare species.

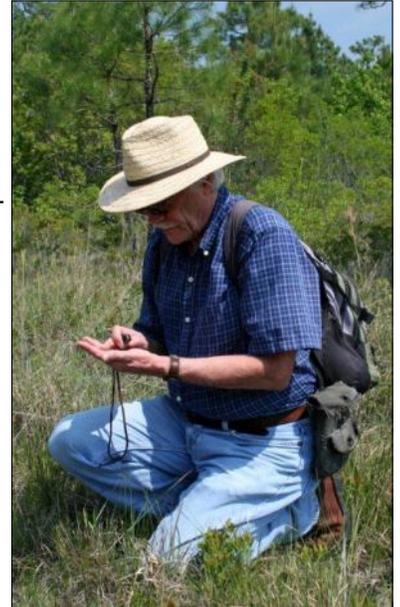
Richard J. LeBlond, a retired botanist and volunteer with the N.C. Natural Heritage Program first collected Golden sedge in 1990. Recognizing it as distinct from other sedges known from the southeastern U.S., he described it as a new species in 1994 and it was listed as endangered in 2002. Golden sedge is endemic to the outer coastal plain of North Carolina and is known from only eight populations in Pender and Onslow counties of N.C.

Since determining that Golden sedge is new to science, LeBlond has led important conservation efforts to educate others about the species and the habitat where it occurs. He has found several new populations and all known locations were found as a direct result of his survey efforts or those he educated about the species. Without his original observations it is likely that this species would have gone unnoticed and likely extinct before anyone even recognized it as a distinct species.

LeBlond has worked closely with Hervey McIver, protection specialist with The North Carolina Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, to identify parcels of land that are important for the protection of Golden sedge populations. McIver is the key person responsible for permanently protecting 8,439 acres of land (costing \$8,038,025) that contain populations of Golden sedge, Cooley's meadowrue, Red-cockaded woodpeckers and other rare species. Over 80% of the known populations of Golden sedge are permanently protected, thanks to his efforts.

McIver recently celebrated his 12th year with The Nature Conservancy and he has concentrated his land protection efforts in North Carolina's coastal plain since 2000. His appreciation of the land and respect for the people of the state are evident in every aspect of his work. His warm, friendly personality opens many doors and allows him to work with landowners on large-scale conservation projects that many people never dreamed would be possible.

McIver's leadership skills have been most notable in his work with the many partners on the Fire Learning Network efforts in the Onslow Bight and Green Swamp areas of coastal North Carolina. Working with fire ecologist Margit Bucher, he brought all of the land management partners together under a formal agreement known as the Onslow Bight Stewardship Alliance so that they may share fire data, expertise and equipment for prescribed burning.



Article and Photos
By Dale Suiter



Richard Leblond
Hervey McIver



Asa Gray 200th Celebration

Born Nov. 18, 1810 in Oneida Co., N. Y., Asa Gray could be described as the person who established systematic botany at Harvard and, to some extent, in the United States.

Gray's ties with European botanists, developed through correspondence, exchange of specimens and visits to Europe, combined with his network of collectors in North America allowed him to serve as a sort of central clearing house for the identification of plants from newly explored areas of North America. In this process, Gray was able to build a major herbarium, which became the nucleus of the current Gray Herbarium at Harvard. Gray also influenced American botany by writing a number of botanical textbooks, including very elementary ones for children. Gray's Manual of the Botany of the Northern

United States became the standard field guide.

Gray also served generally as a link between American and European botanical sciences. Gray reviewed new European scientific works regularly in the American Journal of Science and Arts, and he was largely responsible for introducing Darwin's theory of natural selection in the United States.

Asa Gray died in Cambridge, Mass., on the 30th of January, 1888.

A good, short biography, which appeared in *The Bulletin Of The Torrey Botanical Club*, 2 March 1888, vol. XV, no. 3., can be found at:

http://www.huh.harvard.edu/libraries/Gray_Bicent/graybio.htm



Gray's lily, *Lilium grayi* S. Watson

Threatened in North Carolina, Gray's lily is a high elevation plant of moist, acidic soils of mountain meadows, bogs and forest openings. It is characterized by purple-spotted orange-red drooping bell-like flowers in mid June-July.

Although Gray's lily generally grows to 2-3', it can grow up to heights of 8'. It is a narrow endemic originally found on Roan Mountain in 1840 by Asa Gray, with additional records in southwestern Virginia and one county in Tennessee.

Overgrazing by cattle, herbivory by rabbits and European wild boars, habitat destruction, illegal collecting, low capsule production, canopy shading, and early senescence of flowering plants prior to capsule production all contribute to low population numbers. Research has shown that anthracnose is the fungal pathogen responsible for that early senescing (Bates 2000).

Sereno Watson, appointed by Gray as an assistant in the Gray Herbarium at Harvard, and later becoming the Herbarium's curator, named the plant.



Sereno Watson in the Gray Herbarium, 1892.



Top: Asa Gray

Bottom: *Lilium grayi*
(photo by Jeff Mazza, NCNPS)



September: Restoration Issues

Last year the NCNPS board voted to send a member to the national conference on Restoration Issues hosted at the St. Louis Botanical Garden. Mark Rose was our representative, with the agreement that when he returned, he would share what he learned with the membership. In September, we had a meeting at which he summarized the various speakers, and he introduced local speakers on the topic:

Dr. Claudia Jolls reported on her work at ECU with *Amaranthus pumilus* (Seabeach Amaranth).

Dr. Ken Bridle— reported on his experience with re-location of *Helianthus schweinitzii* (Schweinitz's Sunflower).

Mike Kunz reported on UNC Botanical Gar

den's re-introduction work on *Lysimachia asperulifloia* (Rough-leaf Loosestrife) and *Lilium pyrophilium* (Sandhill's Lily).

Dr. Johnny Randall reported (via Mike Kunz) on UNC Botanical Garden's re-introduction work on *Echinacea laevigata* (Smooth Coneflower) and *Ptilimnium nodosum* (Harperella).

Thanks to Mark for going to St. Louis, and for putting this symposium together, cookies and all; and to those who took time from their weekend to help us:

Claudia Jolls, Mike Kunz, Nell Allen, and Ken Bridle.





Photo journal of fall trip to the Uwharries

All photos courtesy Mark Rose





Support our Advertisers!



Breath O'Spring, Inc. introduces "Native Lilies of the Southeast." This is a series of prints produced from an original black and white illustration drawn by renowned wildflower artist Jean C. Putnam Hancock. Each intricately detailed print is individually signed by the artist and is suitable for framing. The first lily featured in this series is the Turk's Cap Lily (*Lilium superbum*). Actual size of the print is 10 3/4" X 14". Price per print is \$14.95 plus \$2.95 postage and handling. Number two in the series, Pine Lily

(*Lilium catesbaei*), is also available. Please specify which print desired when ordering.

Prints may be ordered by emailing

contact@breathospring.com

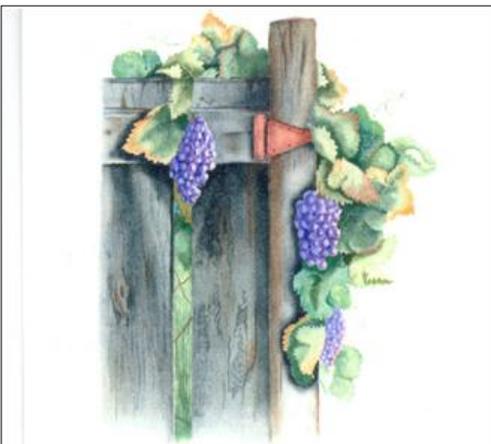
A portion of the gross revenue will be donated to a botany organization. Please visit our web site www.breathospring.com



Natives
100% Organic 100% Native
www.plantnative.net

Natives specializes in...
Native stormwater plants, construction & maintenance: ponds, raingardens, and bioretention.
Stream, wetland, riparian buffer, and native ecosystem restoration.
Native seed, plugs, liners, containerized, ball & burlap and contract grow.

Office
866.527.1177
Email plants@plantnative.net



Carolyn M. Henion
WATERCOLORS

P.O. Box 1973
Lexington, NC 27293
336-971-6464
chenion@hotmail.com
www.carolynmhenion.com

BAKER
ENVIRONMENTAL NURSERY, INC.

Doug Baker

949 Marshall Clark Road • Hoschton, GA 30548
Phone: 706-654-9072 • Cell: 770-630-3695 • Fax: 706-658-2347
E-mail: sales@bakerenvironmentalnursery.com
www.bakerenvironmentalnursery.com

Native Plant News
c/o Katherine Schlosser
1402 Bearhollow Road
Greensboro, NC 27410

NORTH CAROLINA'S NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SINCE 1954



Working It
©Dennis Burnette
