

**Viitche Hana** 

Summer 2024 Volume 35 Issue 3

## New York Flora Association Newsletter Summer 2024

Editor's Note: I'm sure many of you have noticed the little white curly stolons laying on top of leaf litter in late spring woods. Our first article, by Tom Yancy, discusses his thoughts and observations on these curious curls. If you too have some botanical musings that you would be willing to share, please let us know. Also in this issue are two field trip reports, and last (but not least), be sure to take a look at the president's message and the Annual Meeting announcement on page 10.

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#### **NYFA Mission:**

To help people enjoy and learn about the wild plants of New York State and promote the conservation of native species.

#### New York Flora Association

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# Observations and Thoughts on the Spring Curls in a Hardwood Forest

by Tom Yancey

It's late spring again, and a walk to look at leafing trees and other plants in the woods took me along a dirt road through a sugar bush off the Fish Creek Road in Lewis County near Croghan. This wood lot has a long-established second growth forest with dominant sugar maple, beech, black cherry, and hemlock providing a closed canopy during the summer. The early spring flowers had completed their flowering cycle, so some violets were the only flowers encountered. However, the leaves of trout lily (*Erythronium americanum*) were still showing among their many spring curls (Figures 1 and 2) on the forest floor. Not flowers, of course, but I was delighted to see spring curls present in abundance in response to the extended spring. This very distinctive plant growth had puzzled me after first noticing it several years ago until they revealed themselves to be a post-flowering vegetative growth that produces bulblets (Figures 3 and 4); bulblets that grow into the next generation of trout lily, an observation described in a previous note in this newsletter (Yancey 2019).



Figure 1. Five spring curls arching above the leaf litter in a hardwood forest. Note that the spring curl in the upper left corner of the photo is arched up above the ground with a free end consisting of a swollen growing end larger than the strand. The swollen end is the beginning of bulblet growth and at this stage has a pointed tip that eases penetration into the ground. Spring curl strands are 2 mm in diameter.



Figure 2. Spring curls emerging from a moss-covered slope on the side of a roadway. Some withered trout lily leaves are present and a green leaf of a violet plant is present at top right.



Figure 3. A spring curl emergent from a patch of leaf litter in the midst of a group of fading leaves (brownish green) and still green leaves of trout lily *E. americanum*. Largest leaf is 2.5 cm wide at midpoint.



Figure 4. Spring curls emergent from a patch of leaf litter in the midst of a group of withered leaves (brown) and still green leaves of *E. americanum*. Green leaves are about 2 cm wide at midpoint.

Spring curls are the visible, although accidental, display of the vegetative reproduction phase of this multiannual species (lasting more than one year). As the flower fades, one to four narrow string-like strands of tissue grow laterally out from the basal bulb of the flowering plant. These strands are completely white and look like stout string or twine. The strands have a diameter of about 2 mm. After reaching a few inches of length the string grows a small bulblet and the strand connecting it to the parent bulb withers. As the bulblet on the end of the spring curl grows, the parent bulb, the flower stalk, and the string-like strand fade, wither, and crumble into dead tissue. The bulblets persist beneath the leaf litter and eventually grow as a surface plant the next spring. This process is very like that of Allium canadense (wild garlic) except that A. canadense does this entirely above ground, elevated and perched on the top of the flower stalk. When the Allium plant stalk withers, the bulblets fall to the ground. When the Erythronium plant withers, the bulblets are already covered by leaf litter and some soil.

The lateral strand growth of *E. americanum* bulblets usually follows the ground surface, separating the leaf litter from the mineral soil. They grow like roots, growing where penetration is easy. Sometimes that takes them upward and a strand will poke through the leaf litter, exposing it to the atmosphere. This exposed portion of the strand is the spring curl. Once exposed, they grow in loops and open circles on the ground until the growing tip lodges and the strand can grow back into the ground. However, growing upward exposes a one to three inch string-like strand that remains visible. By late spring the bulblet is set in a new location near the parent bulb and is independent. Lacking chlorophyll-bearing tissue at this stage, it is doubtful that the bulblet will continue growth during the summer. However, I wonder if the now separated bulblet puts out tissue filaments to take in some nutrients from the surrounding litter as well as to store water.

As noted in my 2019 discussion, each of the plants that produce bulblets generates multiple bulblets from the parent, from one to four bulblets



that remain in place until the next spring when each of them can grow and produce a surface plant and flower. If all the new bulblets grew flowers, there would be a tripling or more of flowers. That is not what happens; the actual show of flowers is little different from previous years. Non-survival of many bulblets probably accounts for much of the moderated show of flowers during the next spring, but the lower rate of flowering suggests the possibility of another yearly phase of growth where the bulblet grows into a larger bulb without flowering; a yearly phase that doesn't flower or produce bulblets. Bulbs that produce flowers are larger than the bulblets, so an additional year of spring growth would enable them to flower immediately at the beginning of spring the following year. This is speculative but is consistent with reports of multiyear life for plants of the species before producing seeds. Monitoring these plants in a natural setting to test this idea would be a yearslong project involving relocating multiple tagged plants with no surface growth to make it simple.



Figure 5. Cluster of four spring curls of an *E. americanum* plant beside a birch root partly exposed on the cut bank of a road. One curl did not form a bulblet, two curls formed bulblets but failed to insert them into the ground, leaving the bulblets exposed at the surface, and one curl managed to insert enough to form a bulblet within the soil. The withered brown leaves are from nearby *E. americanum* plants.

If vegetative reproduction is so extensive, what about seed production to perpetuate the species?

My walk through the woods revealed many hundreds of fading leaves of *E. americanum*, but only seven seed capsules were noticed. They were still green, indicating seeds that had been produced this spring (Figure 6). Most plants produce only one leaf but the seed producers had two large leaves. From my observations, the ratio of vegetative plants to seed-producing plants was about 500 to 1 (or even more). Four of the seven seed capsules occurred close together in a small cluster of plants. This is unusual and I suspect all four grew from the same ancestor plant, growing through the generations simultaneously and reaching seed stage at the same time.



Figure 6. *E. americanum* with seed pod on flower stalk. Note the pair of large leaves that remain green as the seeds mature. Leaf is 2 cm wide at midpoint.

Despite the meager production of seed, trout lilies are common in this area of long established second growth tree coverage and they manage to get distributed into new areas. On a separate land parcel nearby some trout lilies occur on a dirt roadway that had been cleared 10-15 years ago before being left to nature's control. The adjoining woods do not contain notable populations of the species; apparently, they have not yet colonized this younger, second growth woodland. I suspect there is too much competition from other colonizing plants on this lot to provide the conditions and space needed by E. americanum to grow well. The roadway colonization might have occurred by bulblets being carried in dirt and deposited on the road, but it is more likely that it occurred by the distribution of seeds. Dirt roads,



especially those that remain unused after being made, are great places for species to colonize. They provide an area with good sunlight exposure and loose dirt on which to establish roots.

There is much to learn about trout lily reproduction in wild conditions, and these woods provide good study sites to gather that data. Gathering the seeds and planting them in a nursery setting is fine, but monitoring the wild growth would provide more useful data. That means tagging and following the generations of specific plants to determine survival rate and noting disruptions that are the norm in wild growth. A goal would be to record how many generations occur from seed-bearing to the next seed-bearing growth. Observational work like that is always enjoyable, although it is more challenging with plants that disappear in the ground for much of the year!

#### Reference:

Yancey, T. 2019. Trout Lily, Erythronium americanum, New York Flora Association Newsletter. 30 (2): 1-4.



# Field Trip: Flora of Lorraine Gulf, May 19

by Siela Rae Zembsch, photos by Robert Wesley

On May 19th, ten plant enthusiasts gathered on the side of the road in the small town of Lorraine, decked in rubber boots and eager to begin exploring the botanical wonders of Lorraine Gulf. We were especially hoping to see bird's-eye primrose (*Primula mistassinica*) in bloom. This S2 species, listed as threatened in New York State, thrives on cool, calcareous, north-facing cliffs and is in its southernmost range in Lorraine. Seeing it would be a first for many of us. After a brief round of introductions, we climbed back into our cars and followed Robert Wesley, our trip leader, to a dead-end street to park and head in.

Following a short, steep descent, we found ourselves on the pebbly bank of Abijah Creek, in the refreshing shade of the gorge. Surprisingly clean-edged, stair-like rocks framed the edges of the water. Immediately, we began discussing almost every species we noticed – the beautiful green-and-black inflorescences of twisted sedge (*Carex torta*), the textured snakeskin liverwort (*Conocephalum salebrosum*) layered across the rocks, and the flowering fireworks show of miterwort (*Mitella diphylla*) under a hand lens.





As we inched along, assuming a standard botanist's pace, we began to encounter steeper, taller gorge walls. It was so easy to become enthralled by the details of the plants we were discussing, or to get lost in the microtopographies of the rock walls next to us, that looking up and refocusing on the larger landscape felt like a wonderful scale shock. Many times throughout the trip, we admired the way these sandstone/siltstone walls turned at nearly perfect right angles – and we were lucky enough to have a geologist, Fred Haynes, in our group to explain just how this was possible.



It was shortly after our brief geology lesson that we found an ideal lunch spot in one of the gorge's dramatic twists, on a wide swath of rocky bank. Many of us didn't stay seated for long. There was a lush wall of stairstep moss (*Hylocomium splendens*) to examine on the rock behind us, several jack-in-the-pulpits (*Arisaema triphyllum*) to admire, and a flowering plant on the slope ahead of us to identify through binoculars (we soon determined that it was large-leaved aster, or *Eurybia macrophylla*). And, of course, there was the promise of *Primula* ahead.

The remainder of our trek to *Primula* was filled with many insightful discussions and questions, more stream crossings than I can remember, a few plant tastings, and one particularly memorable mnemonic for bedstraw ("Sticks to your hiney? Must be *aparine*!"). Just around 2:30 PM, we reached a calcareous slope, slowly dripping with water, filled with fleabane (*Erigeron* sp.) and shrubby cinquefoil (*Dasiphora fruticosa*). And there, almost too small to see at first, were the delicate flowers of *Primula mistassinica*! Everyone took their turns admiring and photographing the species. As soon as we knew what to look for, we began spotting more and more on the slope. Although perhaps easy to miss from a distance, *Primula mistassinica* is radiant when viewed up close. Its tubular flowers consist of five notched lobes, positioned at the top of a naked stem. Though their color can vary, these flowers were light pink. They faded to white at their center, and a brilliant yellow ring surrounded the opening to the flowers' tubes.

After everyone had gotten their time with the flowers, we had a decision to make: even though it would mean getting back late, would we keep walking to find an even denser patch of *Primula*? Or was it time to turn around? Because of scheduling needs, we decided to start making our way back to the cars. We took a few final photos and started on our way, stopping every once and a while to examine species that we'd



overlooked on our first time through. Even though we'd only come about a mile (that botanist's pace!), we were all beginning to feel the fatigue of a successful day in the field.

Then, about 30 minutes into our walk back, we spotted something that picked our feet up again. On a tall, flat, seepy rock facade – one that we'd passed earlier, but apparently not paid enough attention to – was a familiar face: *Primula! Much* more *Primula*, in fact. We were in awe – everywhere we looked, another one! The entire rock face was spotted. Interestingly, these flowers were not light pink, but completely white. We lined up close to the rock, our noses nearly against it, admiring and photographing and discussing. How could we have missed these this first time? If we *had* spotted it, though, as one group member pointed out, we may have turned around before spotting our pink *Primula* flowers. We were lucky enough to see both.





We eventually managed to pull ourselves away from the wall and started heading back again. Before we knew it, we were back where we started. Re-emerging from the woods, to the sight of the road and our parked cars, felt a bit like stepping back into reality from some sort of magic portal. Lorraine Gulf, truly, is a magical place – a place where botanical and geologic wonder abound. Thank you, Robert, for sharing your wealth of knowledge with us on this trip, and to everyone who was able to come out and share a day of curiosity and discovery.



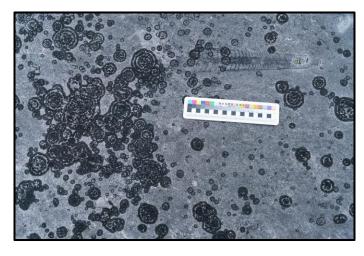


# NYFA Trip to Three Mile Creek Barrens, June 8, 2024

by Bernie Carr

Four years ago, during "covid summer", I visited this alvar with Steven Daniel, Anne Johnson, and some friends from Syracuse. I remembered seeing a few rare grasses, fragrant sumac (*Rhus aromatica*), New Jersey Tea (*Ceanothus herbaceus*), and Crawe's sedge (*Carex crawei*), and was eager to revisit the site. I was lucky enough to move up on the waitlist for this field trip, as there were a number of last-minute cancellations; luckily for me, not everyone could drop everything and head up to Jefferson County on short notice.

We arrived at the alvar after two days of heavy rain; temperatures were cool and skies were overcast. If you are going to visit an open barrens habitat on limestone bedrock, this was the perfect weather to do so. Thirteen participants joined our leaders Steven Daniel and Anne Johnson. After getting out of our cars, Dr. Bruce Gilman gave us a quick introduction to alvars. They were scraped by glaciers and the soil removed down to the limestone bedrock. Since the glaciers retreat, only a very shallow layer of soil has accumulated on much of this community, leaving a landscape of pavement and deep crevasses (also known as grykes). Alvars are subject to extremes of wet and dry periods; big pools form after winter precipitation and heavy rains, and droughty conditions can set in during the intense summer heat. This type of alvar in New York is restricted to a limited area near Lake Ontario in northern Jefferson County.



The alvar also contained nice cephalopods. Photo by Mark Sascha.

Everyone was eager to get going to see some of the alvar plants. We didn't get more than ten feet from the vehicles when we found our first state listed (S3) species, small skullcap (*Scutellaria parvula* var. *parvula*) in flower. There were so many interesting alvar species between the roadside and a wooded area that it took over a half an hour to move another ten feet and get into the woodland.

Of course, you also can't move more than 100 feet on an alvar without questioning a sedge identification. Steven Daniel and others puzzled over clumps of rich woodland sedge (*Carex gracilescens*) as they did not exhibit the characteristic red at the base. Apparently, this specimen didn't read the key, as its basal sheaths were more brown than they were red. Eventually, however, Steven did find some that clearly showed the red on the lower sheath. After this we then had a nice side-by-side comparison of Crawe's sedge, a state threatened species (S2) that was quite abundant here, and the somewhat similar and more common limestone meadow sedge (*Carex granularis*).

Once again, we didn't get terribly far when Bob Wesley stopped to ponder a heal-all (*Prunella vulgaris*), a common yard and roadside non-native. He pointed out that the specimens we were seeing didn't conform to the typical non-native profile. The spacing of the leaves on the stalk and the narrow leaves were suggestive of the native variety, *Prunella vulgaris* var. *lanceolata*.



The Prunella in question. Photo by Robert Wesley.

Next was a quick look, with no disagreements, at broad-leaved witch-grass (*Dichanthelium latifolium*). Nearby were another two



Dichanthelium that we just walked past. The legend has it that noted agrostologists, A. S. Hitchcock and Agnes Chase, were credited with naming a new species of Panicum every day when they went to lunch.

A couple of participants who were peering closely at the ground spotted a minute thalloid liverwort in the genus *Riccia*. They called Adam Storey, a visiting bryologist from the Canadian Museum of Nature, over, and he discussed the finer points of identification and his ongoing search for other minute and overlooked bryophytes. After the trip, he provided us with a list of 66 bryophytes, 13 liverworts, nine lichens, an alga, and a cyanobacteria.



Studying a liverwort. Photo by River Santina.



The liverwort in question. Photo by Mark Sacha.

Luckily, we also had some nice showy herbaceous species to grab our attention. Most amazing was the large number of white death camas (*Anticlea elegans* var. *glauca*), a state threatened (S2) species in good flower. Wood lily (*Lilium philadelphicum*) was also quite abundant and in its full brilliance throughout the alvar.



Field full of Anticlea. Photo by Mark Sacha.



Anticlea inflorescence, photo by Robert Wesley.

What was most impressive to me was the knowledge and enthusiasm of the "young" botanists on the trip. We were lucky to have at least four young botanists: Adam Storey, Katie Beeles, Mark Sacha, and Sarah Stebbins, all of whom were enthusiastic participants and made great contributions.

We didn't look just at plant life; Steven Daniel spotted the globally vulnerable (G3) and state rare (S1) mottled duskywing (*Erynnis martialis*) which here occurs with its host plant, the narrow leaved New Jersey tea. And there was a variety of bird



species including prairie warbler, field sparrow, brown thrasher, and Baltimore oriole.

The last state rare (S3) plant of the day was rock elm (*Ulmus thomasii*) spotted in the forest on the way out. The property we visited is owned by the Nature Conservancy and the neighboring property is fortunately protected by a conservation easement held by the OBI Land Trust. Special thanks to Lee Ellsworth, an OBI volunteer who monitors the property and accompanied us on the field trip. All in all, it was a great day, full of many things to explore and look at.



Mottled Duskywing. Photo by Steven Daniel.



Exploring a crevice. Photo by Sara Stebbins.



Some of the group taking a break in a crevice. Photo by Robert Wesley.



Three Mile species lists. An asterisk (\*) indicates a non-native species. Not all species were seen on this field trip, some were recorded on previous visits to the site.

| Ferns                  |                                      |                         |                                        |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Spleenwort, Ebony      | Asplenium platyneuron                | Grass, Panic            | Panicum flexile                        |
| Spleenwort, Maidenhair | Asplenium trichomanes ssp.           | *Timothy                | Phleum pratense                        |
| ~p.ce                  | quadrivalens                         | *Bluegrass, Canada      | Poa compressa                          |
| Fern, Fragile          | Cystopteris fragilis                 | Bluegrass, Fowl         | Poa palustris                          |
| Wood fern, Marginal    | Dryopteris marginalis                | *Bluegrass, Kentucky    | Poa pratensis ssp. pratensis           |
| Fern, Sensitive        | Onoclea sensibilis                   | Bluestem, Little        | Schizachyrium scoparium                |
| Polypody, Common       | Polypodium virginianum               | Woolgrass; Bulrush      | Scirpus cyperinus                      |
| Fern, Marsh            | Thelypteris palustris var. pubescens | Grass, Indian           | Sorghastrum nutans                     |
| Graminoids             | The typicals parasula vari passes as | Dropseed, Prairie       | Sporobolus heterolepis                 |
| *Redtop; Black bent    | Agrostis gigantea                    | Poverty-grass           | Sporobolus vaginiflorus                |
| Bentgrass; Hairgrass   | Agrostis scabra                      | Herbaceous Plants       | Sporozorus vugimnorus                  |
| Side Oats Grama        | Bouteloua curtipendula <b>S2</b>     | *Yarrow                 | Achillea millefolium                   |
| Brome, Fringed         | Bromus ciliatus                      | Chives, Wild            | Allium schoenoprasum                   |
| *Brome, Smooth         | Bromus inermis                       | Ragweed                 | Ambrosia artemisiifolia                |
| *Brome, Japanese       | Bromus japonicus                     | Liverleaf               | Anemone americana                      |
| Chess, Wild            | Bromus kalmii                        | Thimbleweed             | Anemone cylindrica                     |
| Grass, Bluejoint       | Calamagrostis canadensis             | Thimbleweed             | Anemone virginiana                     |
| Sedge, White Bear      | Carex albursina                      | Pussytoes               | Antennaria howellii ssp.               |
| Sedge, Golden          | Carex aurea                          | 1 4359 0505             | canadensis                             |
| Sedge, Back's          | Carex backii S3                      | Pussytoes, Plantain-lvd | Antennaria plantaginifolia             |
| Sedge, Round-fruited   | Carex brevior                        | Camas                   | Anticlea elegans var. glauca <b>S2</b> |
| Sedge, Oval Leaved     | Carex cephalophora                   | Indian hemp, Dogbane    | Apocynum cannabinum                    |
| Sedge, Cone-shaped     | Carex conoidea                       | Columbine, Red          | Aquilegia canadensis                   |
| Sedge, Crawe's         | Carex crawei                         | Rock-cress, Hairy       | Arabis pycnocarpa                      |
| Sedge, Small-crested   | Carex cristatella                    | Sarsaparilla, Wild      | Aralia nudicaulis                      |
| Sedge, Ivory           | Carex eburnea                        | *Sandwort, Thyme-leaved |                                        |
| Sedge, Slender         | Carex gracilescens                   | Milkweed, Swamp         | Asclepias incarnata                    |
| Sedge, Graceful        | Carex gracillima                     | Milkweed, Common        | Asclepias syriaca                      |
| Sedge, Granular        | Carex granularis                     | *Gromwell, Corn         | Buglossoides arvensis                  |
| Sedge, Spreading       | Carex laxiculmis ssp. laxiculmis     | Bluebell                | Campanula rotundifolia                 |
| Sedge, Troublesome     | Carex molesta <b>S4</b>              | *Knapweed, Spotted      | Centaurea stoebe ssp.                  |
| Sedge, Peduncled       | Carex pedunculata                    |                         | micranthos                             |
| Sedge, Wooly           | Carex pellita                        | *Chickweed, Field       | Cerastium arvense                      |
| Sedge, Pennsylvania    | Carex pensylvanica                   | *Chickweed, Mouse-ear   | Cerastium fontanum                     |
| Sedge, Stellate        | Carex rosea                          | *Snapdragon, Dwarf      | Chaenorhinum minus                     |
| Sedge, Slender         | Carex tenera var. tenera             | Nightshade, Enchanters  | Circaea canadensis                     |
| Sedge, Fox             | Carex vulpinoidea                    | *Basil                  | Clinopodium vulgare                    |
| Woodreed, Drooping     | Cinna latifolia                      | Toadflax, Bastard       | Comandra umbellata                     |
| Poverty-grass          | Danthonia spicata                    | *Swallowwort            | Cynanchum sp.                          |
| Hairgrass, Tufted      | Deschampsia cespitosa                | Ladyslipper, Yellow     | Cypripedium parviflorum var.           |
| Rosette Grass, Woolly  | Dichanthelium lanuginosum            | <b>3</b> 11 /           | pubescens                              |
| Witch Grass, Broad-lvd | Dichanthelium latifolium             | *Queen Anne's lace      | Daucus carota                          |
| Grass, Lindheimer's    | Dichanthelium lindheimeri            | Dragonhead, American    | Dracocephalum parviflorum S1           |
| Spikerush, Flat-stem   | Eleocharis compressa                 | Cinquefoil, Tall        | Drymocallis arguta                     |
| Wheatgrass, Slender    | Elymus trachycaulus                  | *Vipers bugloss         | Echium vulgare                         |
| *Fescue, Red           | Festuca rubra ssp. rubra             | Willow-herb             | Epilobium ciliatum ssp. ciliatum       |
| Rush, Dudley's         | Juncus dudleyi                       | *Helleborine            | Epipactis helleborine                  |
| Rush, Soft             | Juncus effusus var. solutus          | Fleabane, Daisy         | Erigeron annuus                        |
| Rush, Secund           | Juncus secundus                      | Daisy fleabane          | Erigeron strigosus                     |
| Woodrush, Field        | Luzula pallidula                     | Aster, Big-leaved       | Eurybia macrophylla                    |
| Picagrass Spreading    | Oryzonsis asparifolia                | Stromborn Wild          | Erogorio virginiono                    |

Strawberry, Wild

Fragaria virginiana



Ricegrass, Spreading

Oryzopsis asperifolia

Licorice, Wild Geranium; Bicknell's \*Herb-Robert Strawberry, Barren Sunflower, Woodland Bluets, Long-lvd \*St. John's-wort \*Peppergrass \*Daisy, Ox-eye Lily, Wood \*Bird's foot trefoil Horehound, Water Mayflower, Canada Solomon's-seal, Starry \*Black medick \*Sweet-clover, White Saxifrage, Early

Indian-pipe Forget-me-not, Spring Sundrops

Partridge Berry

Goldenrod, Upland Groundsel, Balsam Ginseng, Dwarf Beard-tongue

\*King-devil, Glaucous Orchid, Tubercled

Snakeroot, Seneca \*Cinquefoil, Ashy \*Cinquefoil, Three-lvd

\*Cinquefoil, Rough-fruit Cinquefoil, Old-field Lion's Foot

\*Heal-all Shinleaf

\*Buttercup, Common Buttercup, Early Raspberry, Red Raspberry, Purple flr

\*Sheep sorrel Sandwort, Rock

Sanicle

Skullcap, Small Catchfly, Sleepy Blue-eyed grass

\*Nightshade, Deadly Goldenrod, Tall Goldenrod, Early Goldenrod, Rough Ladie's-tresses, Case's

Aster, Heart-leaved Aster, Glossy-leaved Aster, New England

Starwort, Goldie's

Aster, Heath

Galium circaezans Geranium bicknellii Geranium robertianum

Geum fragarioides Helianthus divaricatus Houstonia longifolia

Hypericum perforatum Lepidium densiflorum Leucanthemum vulgare Lilium philadelphicum Lotus corniculatus

Lycopus americanus Maianthemum canadense Maianthemum stellatum

Medicago lupulina Melilotus albus

Micranthes virginiensis

Mitchella repens Monotropa uniflora Myosotis verna Oenothera perennis Oligoneuron album S3 Packera paupercula Panax trifolius Penstemon hirsutus

Pilosella piloselloides Platanthera flava var. herbiola

Polygala senega Potentilla inclinata Potentilla norvegica ssp.

monspeliensis Potentilla recta Potentilla simplex Prenanthes sp. Prunella vulgaris Pyrola elliptica Ranunculus acris Ranunculus fascicularis

Rubus idaeus ssp. strigosus Rubus odoratus

Rumex acetosella ssp. pyrenaicus

Sabulina michauxii Sanicula sp. Scutellaria parvula Silene antirrhina

Sisyrinchium montanum Solanum dulcamara Solidago gigantea Solidago juncea Solidago nemoralis Spiranthes casei Stellaria longipes S2

Symphyotrichum cordifolium Symphyotrichum firmum Symphyotrichum novae-angliae Symphyotrichum pilosum var.

pringlei

Aster, Arrow-leaf Poison-ivy

Pennyroyal, False \*Clover, Alsike Gentian, Horse \*Mullein

\*Speedwell, Corn \*Speedwell \*Vetch, Cow \*Vetch. Lentil

Golden Alexanders **Shrubs** 

Juneberry, Low Bearberry Redroot, Prairie Symphyotrichum urophyllum Toxicodendron radicans ssp.

negundo

Zizia aurea

Trichostema brachiatum Trifolium hybridum Triosteum aurantiacum Verbascum thapsus Veronica arvensis Veronica officinalis Vicia cracca Vicia tetrasperma

Amelanchier alnifolia Arctostaphylos uva-ursi Ceanothus herbaceus S1



Ceanothus herbaceus. Photo by Robert Wesley.

Dogwood, Silky Dogwood, Gray Honeysuckle, Bush Juniper, Pasture Honeysuckle, Fly Honeysuckle, Wild Honeysuckle, Hairy Cherry, Choke Buckthorn, Alder-leaved Rhamnus alnifolia Sumac, Fragrant Sumac, Staghorn

Rose, Smooth Willow, Bebb's Pussy-willow Willow, Slender **Buffalo Berry** Snowberry Arrowwood

Nannyberry \*Cranberry, Highbush Arrowwood, Downy

Prickly ash **Trees** 

Maple, Sugar Juneberry Birch, Gray

Cornus amomum ssp. amomum

Cornus racemosa Diervilla lonicera Juniperus communis Lonicera canadensis Lonicera dioica Lonicera hirsuta Prunus virginiana Rhus aromatica Rhus typhina Rosa blanda Salix bebbiana Salix discolor Salix petiolaris Shepherdia canadensis Symphoricarpos albus

Viburnum dentatum var. lucidum

Viburnum lentago

Viburnum opulus var. opulus Viburnum rafinesqueanum Zanthoxylum americanum

Acer saccharum Amelanchier sp. Betula populifolia



# **NYFA Quarterly Newsletter Summer 2024**

Hickory, Bitternut Carya cordiformis Oak, Bur Ouercus macrocarpa Hickory, Shagbark Carva ovata \*Buckthorn, Common Rhamnus cathartica Ash, White Fraxinus americana Cedar, White Thuja occidentalis Ash, Black Fraxinus nigra Basswood Tilia americana Ash, Green Fraxinus pennsylvanica Elm, American Ulmus americana

Butternut Juglans cinerea Elm, Rock Ulmus thomasii S3
Cedar, Red Juniperus virginiana Vines
Hop hornbeam Ostrya virginiana Bittersweet Celastrus scandens S4

Spruce, White Picea glauca Carrion-flower Smilax herbacea
Pine, White Pinus strobus Grape, Wild Vitis riparia

Aspen, Quaking Populus tremuloides

### Bryophytes (with synonyms), lichens, and algae observed on 8 June. List kindly provided by Adam Storey.

Abietinella abietina Wiry Fern Moss Amblystegiaceae sp. A Wetland Moss

Anomodon minor
Atrichum angustatum
Aulacomnium palustre
Barbula unguiculata
Blunt-leaved Anomodon
Lesser Smoothcap Moss
Ribbed Groove Moss
Prickly Beard Moss

Brachythecium campestre Field Ragged Moss (Brachythecium salebrosum)

Brachythecium rivulare
Brachythecium spp.
Brachythecium turgidum
Bryum argenteum

River Ragged Moss
Ragged Mosses
Ragged Mosses
Silvery Bryum

Callicladium haldaneanum Beautiful Branch Moss

Calliergonella lindbergii Lindberg's Plait Moss (Hypnum lindbergii) Campyliadelphus chrysophyllus Bristle Star Moss (Campylium crysophyllum)

Campylium stellatum Yellow Star Moss Ceratodon purpureus Fire Moss

Claopodium rostratum

Climacium sp.

Long-beaked Anomodon (Anomodon rostratus)

Likely C. dendroides (Northern Tree Moss)

Cololejeunea biddlecomiae Biddlecome's Pouncewort Conocephalum salebrosum Cat-tongue Liverwort Dicranum flagellare Whip Broom Moss Dicranum montanum Mountain Broom Moss Ontario Broom Moss Dicranum ontariense Dicranum polysetum Wavy-leaved Broom Moss Dicranum scoparium Common Broom Moss Dicranum viride Green Broom Moss Ditrichum pallidum Pale Cow-hair Moss Drepanocladus aduncus Knieff's Hook Moss Encalypta procera Spiral Extinguisher Moss Entodon seductrix Round-stemmed Entodon Moss

Fissidens adianthoides Maidenhair Pocket Moss Fissidens bryoides Lesser Pocket Moss Fissidens taxifolius Yew-leaved Pocket Moss

Flexitrichum flexicaule Flexible Cow-hair Moss (Ditrichum flexicaule)

Frullania eboracensis New York Scalewort

Geheebia ferruginea Rusty Beard Moss (Didymodon ferrugineus)

Hedwigia ciliata Ciliate Hedwig's Moss

Hedwigia filiformis Green Hedwig's Moss (Hedwigia integrifolia)

Hygroamblystegium humile Constricted Feather Moss (Hygroamblystegium varium var. humile)

Leucobryum glaucum White Pincushion Moss

Lewinskya cf. speciosa Showy Bristle Moss (Orthotrichum speciosum)

Lophocolea minor Lesser Crestwort



Mannia fragrans
Orthotrichum anomalum
Orthotrichum cf. stellatum
Physcomitrium pyriforme
Plagiomnium cuspidatum
Plagiomnium sp.
Fragrant Macewort
Anomalous Bristle Moss
Star Bristle Moss
Pear-shaped Urn Moss
Woodsy Leafy Moss
A Leafy Moss

Pleurozium schreberi Red-stemmed Feather Moss Polytrichum juniperinum Juniper Haircap Moss

Polytrichum sp. A Haircap Moss \*Polytrichum-type with marginal teeth)

Porella platyphylla Wall Scalewort

Pseudanomodon attenuatus Slender Anomodon Anomodon attenuatus

Pseudoleskeella tectorum Rooftop Leske's Moss Ptilidium ciliare Ciliated Fringewort Ptilidium pulcherrimum Tree Fringewort

Ptychostomum creberrimum Tight-tufted Bryum (Bryum cuspidatum var. lisae)

Ptychostomum pseudotriquetrum Tall Clustered Thread Moss (Bryum

pseudotriquetrum)

Pylaisia sp. A Pylaisia Moss
Radula complanata Flat-leaved Scalewort
Reboulia hemisphaerica Purple-margined Liverwort
Riccia beyrichiana Purple Crystalwort
Riccia macallisteri MacAllister's Crystalwort

Scapania sp. An Earwort

Schistidium crassithecium Thick-margin Bloom Moss (Male and Female plants!)

Schistidium viride Dark-green Bloom Moss

Serpoleskea confervoides Limestone Willow Moss (Platydictya confervoides)
Streblotrichum convolutum Lesser Bird's-claw Beard Moss (Barbula convolute)

Syntrichia leptotricha
Syntrichia ruralis var. ruralis
Tetraphis pellucida
Fine Screw Moss (Barbula leptotricha)
Hairy Screw Moss (Tortula ruralis)
Common Four-toothed Moss

Thelia asprella Rough Thelia

Thuidium recognitum Hook-leaved Fern Moss

"Tortella ""commutata""" Short-leaved Frizzled Twisted Moss (T. tortuosa complex)

Tortella fragilis Fragile Twisted Moss
Tortella humilis Small Twisted Moss
Tortella rigens Stiff Twisted Moss
Ulota cf. crispula A Pincushion Moss
Weissia controversa Green-tufted Stubble Moss

Lichens

Cetraria arenaria Sand-loving Iceland Lichen
Cladonia rangiferina Gray Reindeer Lichen
Cladonia stellaris Star-tipped Reindeer Lichen

Cladonia spp. A Reindeer Lichen
Dermatocarpon sp. A Stippleback Lichen
Placynthium petersii Peters' Blackthread Lichen

Sarcogyne sp. A Cobblestone/Grain-spored Lichen

Scytinium lichenoides Tattered Jellyskin Thyrea confusa Jelly-strap Lichen

Algae

Nostoc commune Trentepohlia aurea



*Riccia* sp. Photo by Anne Johnson.



# **New York Flora Association 2024 Annual Meeting**

Saturday, September 21, 10 am - 4 pm <a href="https://nyflora.org/events-directory/2024-nyfa-annual-meeting/">https://nyflora.org/events-directory/2024-nyfa-annual-meeting/</a>

"Save the Date! - **The New York Flora Association annual meeting** will be held on September 21st from 10am to 4pm at the Ganondagon State Historic Site. Please join us to honor our Native Plant Conservationist of the Year, Bruce Gilman. The meeting will also feature Steve Young's Plant quiz, lunch and plenty of botanizing! Additional details and RSVP will be sent in the coming months.



# **Message from the President**

Dear NYFA Members and Friends,

I just attended a pollinator festival hosted by ADK Action on the Uihlein Foundation property in Lake Placid. Interest is growing quickly for more information about native plant species ecology, ecotypes, seed and other propagule sources, and their potential use in our landscaping plans. It's an exciting time for those of us trying to escape the tyranny of the lawn! NYFA is dedicated to helping people learn about the wild plants of NYS and to promoting the conservation of our native species. One way we do that is by maintaining the NYFA Atlas. It is the go-to place for information about plant distribution, nativity, ecology and rarity status in NYS.

For those interested in all aspects of native species, there has been a lot of discussion and confusion regarding ecoregions, ecosystems, ecotypes, etc. Steve Young sent me a couple of links that I share here with you that help answer some of those questions: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B3RoYYd5Zk0">https://www.nativeplanttrust.org/northeast-seed-network/</a>

In closing, I hope you can take advantage of some of our field trips this summer and, as always, if you have any comments, suggestions or questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours botanically, Dan Spada

# **Support the Atlas**



Support the NY Flora Atlas!

Become an Atlas Sponsor





The impressive landscape at Three Mile Alvar. Photo by Sara Stebbins.



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