LILIUM PHILADELPHICUM L.
Wood-lily

FAMILY: Liliaceae

SYNONYMS: Lilium umbellatum Pursh var. andinum

HABIT: Perennial herb, 0.2 to 1.0 m; flowers and fruits June-Aug.

SIMILAR SPECIES: This is the only species of lily in Ohio with upright flowers. Two varieties are often recognized. The var. philadelphicum has lanceolate to oblanceolate leaves, 10-15 mm wide, mostly in whorls, and fruits 2.5 to 3.5 cm. The var. andinum has narrowly lanceolate to linear leaves, 3-10 mm wide, mostly alternate except the uppermost whorl, and fruits 4-7 cm.

TOTAL RANGE: The var. philadelphicum occurs from NH to NC and w. to KY and OH; the var. andinum occurs from OH to MN, B.C and NM.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): There are post-1980 records from Adams, Henry, Lucas, and Scioto counties. There are pre-1980 records from Ottawa, Portage, Summit, and Wood counties.

HABITAT: The var. philadelphicum typically occurs in woods and thickets; the var. andinum grows in more open situations such as prairies, bogs, fens, meadows and shores.

HAZARDS: Overgrowth by woody species as a result of succession.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, but probably good since the species occurs in a variety of habitats.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect mature specimens with flowers or fruits.

COMMENTS: Braun (1967) states that both varieties occur in Ohio, although var. andinum is the more common of the two. Voss (1972) contends that most of Michigan's plants appear to be var. andinum, but that many intermediate plants make it difficult to distinguish varieties. The species should be sought mostly in northwestern, northeastern and south-central Ohio.

SELECTED REFERENCES:


