

PLANT SPECIES OF MARYLAND'S PIEDMONT  
THAT ARE REGIONALLY RARE BUT NOT STATE RARE  
CRIS FLEMING - JANUARY 2010

This is a list of plant species not on Maryland's list of Rare, Threatened & Endangered Species but considered by me to be regionally rare or uncommon in Maryland's Piedmont Region (Montgomery, Carroll, Howard, Baltimore, & Harford Co) and the inner Coastal Plain areas near Washington (Prince Georges, Charles, & Anne Arundel Co). Although other botanists have been consulted, this list is mostly based on my own field experience and is not considered complete or authoritative. With a few exceptions, all plant species listed here have been seen by me in one or more of these counties. This list is for the use of members of MNPS doing field surveys in the Piedmont Region. It was prepared as one of the goals of the botany committee for the year 2002 and was completed in January 2003 and revised in February 2007 and again in January 2010. Nomenclature follows Gleason and Cronquist, Manual of Vascular Plants of Northeastern United States and Adjacent Canada, Second Edition, 1991.

The great majority of plants listed here as regionally rare are northern species that do grow in Maryland in the mountain counties because the climate is cooler there. The long, warm summers of the Piedmont counties preclude the widespread occurrence of many northern species. However, species of these cooler regions sometimes do occur in the Piedmont region on north-facing slopes, in shady ravines, or in especially rich, moist soil. Other species are regionally rare because their habitat is regionally rare, for instance shale barrens, serpentine barrens, diabase openings, and cool seepage swamps. Some of these habitats are also state rare and some are more common in other physiographic regions.

HERBACEOUS FLOWERING PLANTS

- Anemone quinquefolia - Wood anemone: northern & mountains
- Aralia nudicaulis - Wild sarsaparilla
- Arisaema dracontium - Green dragon: was on state list
- Aruncus dioicus - Goatsbeard
- Asclepias verticillata – Whorled milkweed: recently removed from state list
- Asclepias viridiflora - Green milkweed: was once on state list
- Aster linariifolius – Stiff aster
- Aster novae-angliae - New England aster: however widely planted
- Aster novi-belgii – New York aster
- Aster oblongifolius - Aromatic aster
- Caltha palustris - Marsh marigold: cool seepage swamps and streams, northern & mountains
- Campanula americana - Tall bellflower
- Chamaelirium luteum – Devil's bit
- Chrysosplenium americanum – Golden saxifrage
- Clitoria mariana - Butterfly-pea: more common south & west
- Cuphea viscosissima (C. petiolata) - Clammy cuphea: more common southward
- Epigaea repens - Trailing arbutus
- Gentiana clausa - Bottle gentian
- Geum vernum - Spring avens: recently removed from state list
- Jeffersonia diphylla - Twinleaf: mainly on calcareous substrate, was once on state list
- Lilium canadense - Canada lily: northern & mountains
- Maianthemum canadense - Canada mayflower: northern & mountains

Mitella diphylla - Miterwort – northern & mountains  
Obolaria virginica - Pennywort  
Orontium aquaticum - Golden club: more common on Coastal Plain  
Pedicularis canadensis – Wood betony  
Phylla lanceolata (Lippia l.)- Fog-fruit: more common southward  
Polemonium reptans - Greek valerian  
Polygala sanguinea - Purple milkwort  
Porteranthus trifoliatus (Gillenia t.) - Bowman's-root; Appl. mountains  
Pyrola rotundifolia - Round-leaved pyrola  
Sabatia angularis – Rose pink  
Saxifraga pensylvanica – Swamp saxifrage; northern & mountains  
Stylosanthes biflora – Pencil flower  
Taenidia integerrima - Yellow pimpernel  
Tephrosia virginiana - Goat's-rue  
Thalictrum revolutum - Waxy meadowrue: was once on state list  
Thalictrum steeleanum – Steele's meadowrue  
Trillium erectum - Erect trillium: northern & mountains  
Veratrum viride - False hellebore: cool seepage swamps and streams, circumboreal  
Vernonia glauca - Broad-leaved ironweed  
Viola blanda - Sweet white violet  
Viola conspersa - Dog violet  
Viola cucullata - Marsh blue violet: cool seepage swamps and streams  
Viola pedata – Bird's foot violet  
Viola rotundifolia – Round-leaved violet  
Viola sagittata (V. fimbriatula) - Ovate-leaved violet: dry fields especially serpentine

ORCHIDS - All orchids are uncommon or rare in the region expect *Aplectrum hyemale* - Puttyroot, *Goodyera pubescens* - Downy rattlesnake-plantain, and *Tipularia discolor* - Crane-fly orchid. Below are several orchids which do occur in the region but rarely in abundance.

*Cypripedium acaule* - Pink lady's-slipper: acidic woods  
*Cypripedium calceolus* - Yellow lady's-slipper: calcareous woods  
*Isotria verticillata* - Large whorled pogonia  
*Liparis lilifolia* - Lily-leaved twayblade  
*Orchis spectabilis* - Showy orchis  
*Platanthera clavellata* - Green wood orchid  
*Platanthera lacera* - Ragged fringed orchid  
*Spiranthes cernua* - Nodding ladies'-tresses  
*Spiranthes gracilis* - Slender ladies'-tresses

#### FERNS & FERN ALLIES

*Asplenium montanum* – Mountain spleenwort  
*Asplenium rhizophyllum* (*Camptosorus*) - Walking fern: mainly on calcareous substrate  
*Dryopteris cristata* - Crested wood fern: Seepage swamps  
*Lycopodium appressum* – Southern bog clubmoss: mostly Coastal Plain  
*Osmunda claytoniana* - Interrupted fern  
*Pellaea atropurpurea* - Purple cliff-brake: mainly on calcareous substrate

## WOODY PLANTS (TREES & SHRUBS)

*Acer saccharum* - Sugar maple: northern & mountains, found in cool ravines here & also planted  
*Aronia arbutifolia* - Red chokeberry: typically found in bogs  
*Aronia melanocarpa* - Black chokeberry: typically found in bogs  
*Betula lenta* - Black birch  
*Betula lutea* - Yellow birch: northern & mountains  
*Carya ovata* - Shagbark hickory  
*Castanea pumila* - Chinquapin: was on state list  
*Celtis tenuifolia* - Dwarf hackberry  
*Ceanothus americanus* - New Jersey tea  
*Cornus racemosa* - Gray dogwood: northern & mountains  
*Gleditsia triacanthos* - Honey locust: midwestern species found along Potomac River & also planted  
*Hypericum densiflorum* - Bushy St. Johnswort  
*Hypericum prolificum* (*H. spathulatum*) - Shrubby St. Johnswort  
*Lyonia mariana* - Staggerbush: more common in sandy soil on outer Coastal Plain  
*Magnolia acuminata* - Cucumber-tree: Appalachian mountains  
*Magnolia tripetala* - Umbrella magnolia: Appalachian mountains  
*Magnolia virginiana* - Swamp magnolia: more common on Coastal Plain  
*Morus rubra* - Red mulberry  
*Myrica cerifera* - Southern bayberry: more common on outer Coastal Plain  
*Phoradendron flavescens* - Mistletoe: usual range more southern & outer Coastal Plain  
*Physocarpus opulifolius* - Ninebark  
*Pinus pungens* - Table Mountain pine  
*Pinus strobus* - White pine: northern & mountain species planted here, few natural stands  
*Quercus ilicifolia* - Scrub oak  
*Quercus michauxii* - Swamp chestnut oak  
*Quercus muehlenbergii* - Chinquapin oak  
*Rhododendron maximum* - Rosebay rhododendron: northern & mountain species  
*Rhus aromatica* - Fragrant sumac  
*Rhus vernix* - Poison sumac: typically found in bogs  
*Spiraea tomentosa* - Steeplebush  
*Tilia americana* - American basswood: northern & mountains  
*Toxicodendron pubescens* - Poison oak: more common on outer Coastal Plain  
*Tsuga canadensis* - Eastern hemlock: northern and mountains; planted here, few natural stands  
*Viburnum rafinesquianum* - Downy arrowwood