

White Trout-lily (*Erythronium albidum*)

Plant Species of Concern

State Rank: S3 (vulnerable), Global Rank: G5 (secure)

Identification

White trout-lily is a perennial herb, producing a stem 4 to 6 inches (10-15 cm) tall. The leaves are basal and paired, usually spotted or mottled, elliptic or lance-shaped and up to 6 inches (15 cm) long. The white (sometimes slightly tinged with blue or pink) flowers are produced singly at the end of long stalks in late April and early May. The flowers nod downward and have white 6 petals/sepals that curve strongly upward.

Habitat

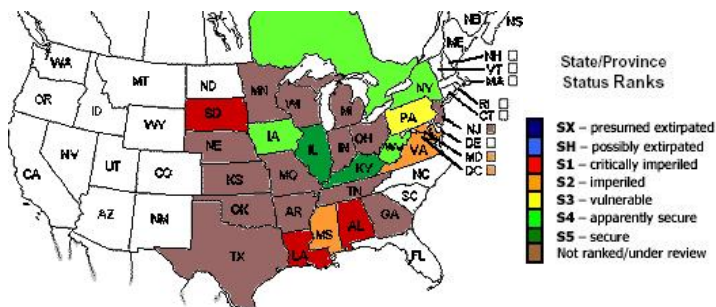
White trout-lily has a distribution from Ontario and New York south into Texas and the Gulf Coast states. In Pennsylvania, the occurrences are scattered throughout the state, particularly along the major rivers and streams. The species grows in bottomlands, floodplains, and lower slopes, especially on limestone substrates.



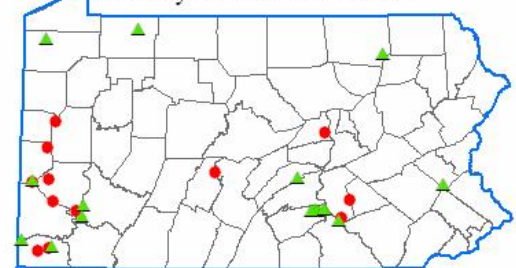
Photo Source: PNHP

North American State/Province Conservation Status

Map by NatureServe (July, 2007)



Pennsylvania Distribution



▲ Current records ● Records > 30 years old
Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program data 2007

Status

The PA Biological Survey considers white trout-lily to be a species of special concern, based on the relatively few occurrences that have been confirmed. It has been assigned a rarity status of Undetermined, meaning that more information is needed before a more definitive rarity status can be designated.

Conservation

More field surveys are needed to determine the range, abundance, and ecological requirements of the white trout-lily before a more definitive conservation status, if needed, can be assigned.

References

- NatureServe. 2007. NatureServe Explorer: An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. Version 6.1. NatureServe, Arlington, Virginia. Available at <http://www.natureserve.org/explorer>.
- Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program. 2007.
- Rhoads, A. F. and W. M. Klein, Jr. 1993. The Vascular Flora of Pennsylvania: Annotated Checklist and Atlas. American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia.
- Rhoads, A. F. and T. A. Block. 2000. The Plants of Pennsylvania: An Illustrated Manual. University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia.



