

## HARPER'S BEAUTY

*Harperocallis flava* McDaniel

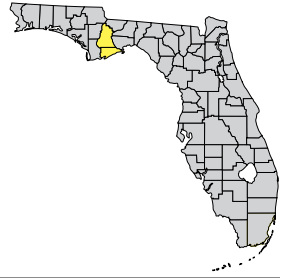
**Synonyms:** none

**Family:** Liliaceae (lily)

**FNAI Ranks:** G1/S1

**Legal Status:** US–Endangered FL–Endangered

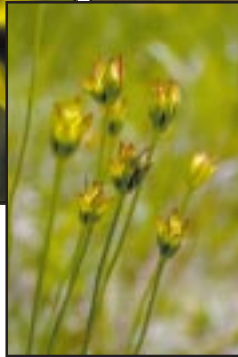
**Wetland Status:** US–OBL FL–FACW



Eleanor Dietrich



Eleanor Dietrich



**Field Description:** Perennial **herb**. **Leaves** 2.5 - 8 inches long, all basal, narrow, ribbed, and pointed, flat or slightly twisted, overlapping at base of stem like iris leaves; old leaf bases persistent. **Flower stalk** to 2 feet tall, leafless except for 3 - 5 tiny bracts; 1 flower per stalk. **Flower** with 6 yellow, spreading **tepals** (3 petals + 3 sepals), 6 stamens, and ovary with 3 - 6 lobes. **Fruit** surrounded by erect, leathery tepals, which have darkened to yellow-green with red tips.

**Similar Species:** Harper's beauty is unique in its solitary, yellow flower and iris-like leaves. Rush featherling (*Pleea tenuifolia*) has similar leaves.

**Related Rare Species:** Other rare lily family species from the Panhandle included in this guide: panhandle lily (*Lilium iridollae*), lance-leaved trillium (*Trillium lancifolium*), and Florida bellwort (*Uvularia floridana*).

## Harper's beauty

## *Harperocallis flava*

**Habitat:** Wet prairies, seepage slopes, pitcherplant bogs, especially in transitions to shrub zones, and in nearby roadside ditches.

**Best Survey Season:**

Flowers in May, plants are nearly invisible at other times of the year.

**Range-wide Distribution:**

Endemic to Franklin and Liberty counties, FL.

**Conservation Status:**

Discovered in 1965, Harper's beauty is the only species in its genus. It occurs in a small area within the Apalachicola National Forest and vicinity, where 15 small populations are known.

**Protection &**

**Management:** Apply prescribed fire every 2 - 3 years. Avoid soil and hydrological disturbances. Avoid spring mowing and herbicide use in road rights-of-way.

**References:**

Ander-son and Smith 1994, Clewell 1985, Coile 2000, Godt et al. 1997, Kral 1983, McDaniel 1968, USFWS 1983a, Ward 1979, Wunderlin and Hansen 2000a.

