

PINE LILY

Lilium catesbyi Walter

Synonyms: *Lilium catesbaei* Walt.

Family: Liliaceae (lily)

FNAI Ranks: G4/S4

Legal Status: US-none FL-Threatened

Wetland Status: US-FAC++ FL-FAC



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Field Description: Flowers orange or yellow; leaves lanceolate, all alternate; flowers erect, facing upward; tepals clawed; large showy orange-red flowers with 6 spotted tepals. It arises from a bulb, and is difficult to see when not in flower.

Similar Species: The large, erect, spotted flowers of this species are unmistakable.

Related Rare Species: Turk's cap lily (*Lilium superbum*) has dark orange, non-fragrant flowers with purple spots and leaves in 6 - 10 whorls on a ~1.5-2m tall stem. Carolina lily (*Lilium michauxii*) flowers resemble those of turk's cap lily, but the stem is only 0.3-1m tall, flowers are fragrant, and leaves are broadly lance-shaped. Panhandle lily (*Lilium iridollae*) has yellowish-orange flowers with brown spots and are curved backwards; lance-shaped leaves whorled at midstem, alternate above and below.

Habitat: Mesic flatwoods, dry prairies, wet prairies, and wet flatwoods.

pine lily

Lilium catesbyi

Best Survey Season: Summer-fall

Range-wide Distribution: Se. NC south to s. FL and west to e. LA, on the Coastal Plain. Present throughout most of Florida except for the southernmost counties.

Conservation Status: Listed state-threatened, this species is found in wet flatwoods and prairies throughout most of Florida.

Protection and Management: This species prefers open areas in pine flatwoods. Continued prescribed burning of mesic and wet flatwoods every 2-3 years should promote the open, grassy habitat that favors pine lilies.

References: Godfrey and Wooten 1979, Radford, Ahles, and Bell 1968, Weakley et al. 2022, Wunderlin and Hansen 2011.