

## ATAMASCO LILY

*Zephyranthes atamasco* (L.) Herb.

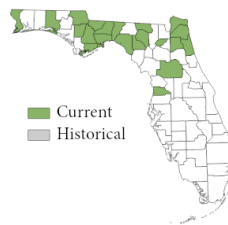
**Synonyms:** *Zephyranthes atamasca* (L.) Herbert  
var. *atamasca*

**Family:** Amaryllidaceae (amaryllis)

**FNAI Ranks:** G4G5T4/S4

**Legal Status:** US-none FL-Threatened

**Wetland Status:** US-none+ FL-FACW



Forms solitary white flowers; linear leaves basal from a bulb. Photo taken at Joe Budd WMA by Kelly Anderson.

### Field Description:

**Similar Species:** Atamasco lily is distinguished from Treat's zephyrlily (*Z. treatiae*) by its wider leaves and a perianth tube that is less than one quarter the length of the perianth. It differs from redmargin zephyrlily (*Z. simpsonii*) by having a style and stigma that exceed the anthers.

**Related Rare Species:** Redmargin zephyrlily (*Zephyranthes simpsonii*), state-threatened, has a stigma that is equal to or shorter than the anthers. Treat's zephyrlily (*Zephyranthes treatiae*), state-threatened, has an overlapping range with atamasco lily in northeast Florida but also extends into central Florida where atamasco lily does not occur. Treat's zephyrlily has a perianth tube length at least

**atamasco lily**

*Zephyranthes atamasco*

1/4 the perianth length, about equal to the filament length and spathe length.

**Habitat:** Moist hammocks, flatwoods, meadows, pastures and roadsides.

**Best Survey Season:** Spring.

**Range-wide Distribution:** Southeastern U.S. piedmont and coastal plain from VA to central FL

**Conservation Status:** Populations appear to be relatively secure from GA south to northwest FL; less common in central peninsular FL.

**Protection and Management:** Protect hardwood forests and bottomland forests from manmade disturbances. Control exotics. Protect from poaching.

**References:** S. Watson 1985



Photo taken by Kim Gullede.

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*Zephyranthes atamasco*



Growing on slope of upland hardwood forest near river. Photo taken at Joe Budd WMA by Kelly Anderson.