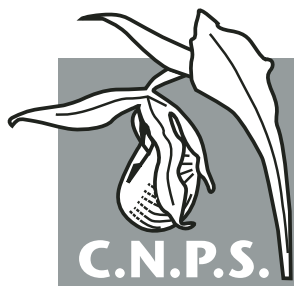


Indian Pipe



Conserve Native Plants Society Inc.

Also known as Ghost Flower, Indian Pipe is a very unusual-looking herb, lacking any green colour because it is parasitic, through a fungal intermediate, on the roots of neighbouring conifers. The white waxy stems grow from a dense rounded mat of roots up to 30 cm tall, bear small white scale-leaves, and terminate in a single nodding, urn-shaped, white flower up to 2 cm long, with two to four (but sometimes none) irregular sepals and usually five petals, developing into a seed capsule that becomes erect as the whole plant dries and turns black at maturity.

Indian Pipe can be found rarely in damp, deeply shaded woodlands across Canada, most of the USA (except the dry southwest), Mexico, Central America and Asia.

Extracts of *M. uniflora* have shown little or no antibiotic activity but have shown some insecticidal activity. A number of potentially bioactive monoterpenes, triterpenes, and benzenoids have been reported from another species of *Monotropa* (Farnsworth 1999). The flower can be chewed to treat a toothache.

The plant's rarity and the limited pharmacological activity shown so far suggest it has little commercial potential.

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Indian Pipe
Monotropaceae
Photo by Bud Ewacha

**(C.N.P.S.) Conserve Native
Plants Society Inc.**

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**Please remember to renew
your membership.**

2006 CNPS Field Trip Revised Schedule

Early warm weather has promoted plant growth ahead of scheduled field trip dates, thus necessitating dates to be revised for the following events:

Saturday, May 27 - Brokenhead Wetlands and Belair Provincial Forest

Dragon's Mouth Orchid, Moccasin Flower and many other orchids.

Saturday, June 3 - Woodridge Area

Showy Lady's-slippers, Small Round-leaved Orchids, Blunt-leaved Orchid, and other native plants.

Saturday, June 17 - Agassiz Forest Reserve

Rose Pegonia, Tall Leafy Green Orchid, Loesel's Twayblade, Wood Lilies and more.

Saturday, July 8 - Trans-Canada East

Milkweed, Cactus, Iron Weed, Lilies and other native plants.

Field trips are limited to members of CNPS and their families. There will be a \$10 charge to cover the costs of these field trips, and you may have to sign a liability waiver. Please use your own discretion as to whether you are able to participate depending on the degree of difficulty walking. We do not make any guarantees that you will see every plant mentioned in bloom, but we do guarantee an interesting and informative hike with wonderful people, plants and animals to meet. If interested, please contact Bud Ewacha as early as possible at 253-4741.

Please dress suitably for the weather, as we intend to go rain or shine. Hats, lunches and drinking water are strongly recommended. You will be notified if a trip has to be cancelled for any reason.

