

# Rare Plants of Louisiana

## *Collinsonia canadensis* - richweed Mint Family (Lamiaceae)

**Rarity Rank:** S2?/G5

	1	2	3	4	5
State					
Global					
	imperiled		rare		secure

**Range:** Ontario and Quebec south to Louisiana and Florida

### Recognition:

- Robust herbaceous perennial in the mint family, 0.4 to 1.5 m tall with stems to 8 mm in diameter
- Stems square, thick, erect, and branched above
- Herbage with a citronella-like fragrance
- Leaves opposite, blades large, elliptic to oval, toothed, largest blades 15 to 25 cm long by 7 to 17 cm wide
- Flowers light yellow, 5-parted, with fringed lower lip; flowers in a terminal panicle of racemes
- Flowers have 2 fully developed anthers (the similar *C. serotina* has 2 or 4 anthers)
- Calyx lobes 2.3 to 4.3 mm long, the narrower segments elongated and bristle-like (= subulate)



Thomas G. Barnes @ USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database / Barnes, T.G., and S.W. Francis. 2004. *Wildflowers and ferns of Kentucky*. University Press of Kentucky.

**Flowering Time:** July to September

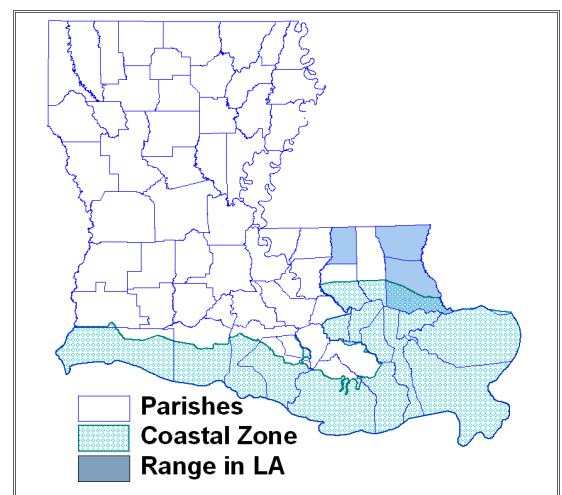
**Light Requirement:** Shade to Part Shade

### Wetland Indicator Status:

FAC – similar likelihood of occurring in both wetlands and non-wetlands

### Habitat:

Habitat data is lacking in Louisiana. Records range from hardwood slope forests to upland pine forests. The upland pine reports are within the range of longleaf pine but now support a mix including loblolly and shortleaf pines. Soil moisture status for these sites (mesic, dry etc.) was not recorded. One record on Lee Memorial Forest in Washington Parish is from the base of a slope in a seasonal drainage and is fairly moist, relative to the sandy ridge-top soils, with fire likely burning into the drainage periodically. Field work is needed for *Collinsonia* in Louisiana!



### Threats:

- Conversion of native forest types to agriculture/pine plantations
- Lack of knowledge regarding floristics, habitat affinities and rarity status in Louisiana

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## **Beneficial Management Practices:**

- Conduct field and herbarium studies of Louisiana *Collinsonia* in order to better understand the floristics and rarity status in the state

## **LA River Basins:** Pearl, Pontchartrain



Photo by LNHP staff



Photo by Emmet J. Judziewicz:  
University of Wisconsin- Stevens Point

## **References:**

- Clewell, A. F. 1985. Guide to the vascular plants of the Florida Panhandle. University Presses of Florida, Florida State University Press, Tallahassee. 605 pp.
- Small, J. K. 1933. Manual of the southeastern flora. University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill. 1554 pp.
- USDA, NRCS. 2007. The PLANTS Database (<http://plants.usda.gov>, 16 August 2007). National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, LA 70874-4490 USA.