**Physalis carpenteri** - Carpenter’s groundcherry
Nightshade Family (Solanaceae)

**Rarity Rank:** S1/G3

**Range:** AL, FL, LA, MS

**Recognition:**
- Tall (to 1 m) perennials from rhizomes, scarclely branched
- Leaf-blades very thin, oval or ovate, abruptly contracted into a long acumination, glabrous on both surfaces with hairs restricted to the mid vein on upper surface and mid and main lateral veins on lower surface; margin entire or slightly wavy
- Inflorescences axillary with 2- to 4-flowered clusters, rather than solitary as in other *Physalis* spp.
- Corolla pale yellow, to 1 cm broad, open-campanulate (bell-shaped)
- Anthers short, 0.5 – 2.5 mm long
- Fruiting calyx (looks like a Chinese lantern) only about 1.5 cm broad, weakly inflated
- Berries globose, green then ripening yellowish

**Flowering Time:** May to September

**Light Requirement:** Shade to sun

**Wetland Indicator Status:** Does not occur in wetlands anywhere in range

**Habitat:**
We have several records from the loess bluffs of the Tunica Hills and from Fluker’s Bluff in St. Helena Parish. There are several other records from cutover and variously disturbed upland sites elsewhere in the Florida Parishes. Most of our records are over 30 years old. This species is ripe for a range-wide status survey.

**Threats:**
Lack of status knowledge; specific threats unknown

**Beneficial Management Practices:**
Conduct range-wide status survey

**LA River Basins:** Pearl, Pontchartrain, Mississippi
**References:**


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