

# Rare Plants of Louisiana

## *Canna flaccida* - golden canna Canna Family (Cannaceae)

**Rarity Rank:** S4? / G4?

	1	2	3	4	5
State					
Global					
	imperiled		rare	secure	

**Range:** AL, FL, GA, LA, MS, SC, TX (exotic in VA)

### Recognition:

- Large perennial to 1.2 m tall, with green herbaceous stems and large flat leaves
- Leaves alternate, to ca 60 cm long and with obvious parallel veins; leaves **not** variegated which is the case in many cultivated exotic cannas
- Flowers **solid yellow**, with **no** red or orange, irregular-shaped and in terminal racemes



**Flowering Time:** May to August

**Light Requirement:** Full sun

**Wetland Indicator Status:** OBL – almost always in wetlands

### Habitat:

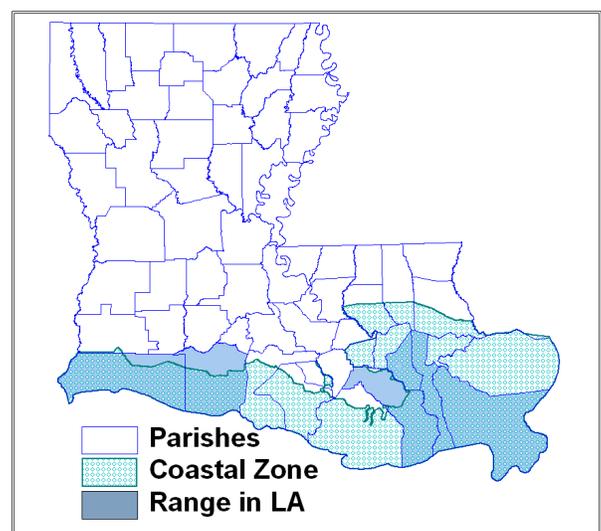
Fresh marsh and open swamps. Since this plant is cultivated and used as an ornamental, some occurrences could be escapes. Records from northern Louisiana are probably escapes and these need to be investigated. Our map shows the distribution of what we currently regard as naturally occurring populations. The current status of this species in Louisiana is not well known and more field work is warranted.

### Threats:

- Salt water intrusion and conversion of marsh to open water
- Lack of knowledge regarding status in LA

### Beneficial Management Practices:

- Protection of freshwater marsh and swamps
- Additional field survey work



# Rare Plants of Louisiana



*LA River Basins:* Pearl, Pontchartrain, Barataria, Terrebonne, Vermilion-Teche, Mermentau, Calcasieu, Sabine



## ***References:***

Duncan, W. H. and M. B. Duncan. 1987. *The Smithsonian guide to seaside plants of the Gulf and Atlantic coasts*. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington. 409 pp.

Godfrey, R. K. and J. W. Wooten. 1981. *Aquatic and wetland plants of the southeastern United States: monocotyledons*. University of Georgia Press, Athens, GA. 712 pp.

Tobe, J. D., K. C. Burks, R. W. Cantrell, M. A. Garland, M. E. Sweeley, D. W. Hall, P. Wallace, G. Anglin, G. Nelson, J. R. Cooper, D. Bickner, K. Gilbert, N. Aymond, K. Greenwood, and N. Raymond. 1998. *Florida wetland plants: an identification manual*. Tallahassee: Florida Department of Environmental Protection. 598 pp.

USDA, NRCS. 2007. *The PLANTS Database* (<http://plants.usda.gov>). National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, LA 70874-4490 USA

Funding provided by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program

For more information, please visit our Web pages at

[www.wlf.la.gov/wildlife/louisiana-natural-heritage-program](http://www.wlf.la.gov/wildlife/louisiana-natural-heritage-program) or 225-765-2811

[www.BTNEP.org](http://www.BTNEP.org) or 1-800-259-0869