

green orchid

Platanthera aquilonis

FEATURES

The green orchid has yellow-green flowers that are produced along the top of the stem. Each flower has an elongated lower lip. An upper sepal and two lateral petals form a hood. Two sepals, often curling back at the tip, form the sides of the flower. A short spur is present at the back of the flower. The leaves become progressively smaller along the stalk from the base to the flowers.

BEHAVIORS

This species is found in swampy areas in the northern half of the state. It blooms from June through August. Its flowers are self-pollinating. The fruit is a capsule containing tiny seeds.

TAXONOMY

Kingdom: Plantae
Phylum: Magnoliophyta
Class: Liliopsida
Order: Orchidales
Family: Orchidaceae

ILLINOIS STATUS

uncommon, native

ILLINOIS RANGE





Aquatic Habitats

marshes; peatlands; wet prairies and fen

Woodland Habitats

none

Prairie and Edge Habitats

none