

# small yellow lady's-slipper orchid

*Cypripedium parviflorum*

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

## ILLINOIS STATUS

state endangered, native

## FEATURES

Small yellow lady's-slipper orchid is a perennial herb that grows from thick roots. Its upright, unbranched, hairy stems have leaves in an alternate arrangement along them. These simple, entire, hairy leaves may be six inches long and two inches wide. Flowers are borne solitary to a few at the stem tip. The yellow, slipper-shaped flowers with violet stripes may be two and one-half inches long. The fruit is a capsule that contains tiny seeds. Small yellow lady's-slipper orchid may attain a height of two feet.

## BEHAVIORS

Small yellow lady's-slipper orchid may be found statewide in Illinois. It grows in forests, wetlands and fields. Flowers are produced from April through May. Insects are the main pollinating agent, while the wind disperses the seeds.

## ILLINOIS RANGE





### **Aquatic Habitats**

none

### **Woodland Habitats**

coniferous forests; upland deciduous forests

### **Prairie and Edge Habitats**

none