

White-Top Pitcher Plant

(*Strix varia*)



Pitcher Plant

Instant ID

- A carnivorous (meat eating) plant with trumpet-shaped leaves which have white tops with red veins
- Flower is red with a yellow center
- Flower droops and has 10 petals
- Leaf has an umbrella-like cover shielding its opening
- Grows up to 36 inches

Native Niches

- Found in the western Panhandle of Florida and into the neighboring portions of Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia
- Grows in moist soils low in nutrients
- Typically found in uplands and prairies

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Plant Particulars

- Cone leaves catch and hold rainwater
- Insects and small vertebrates (animals with backbones) become trapped in leaves
- Plant digests organisms in leaves and uses the nutrients to supplement poor soil quality
- Size and showiness make it desirable to florists and gardeners
- Grows in the wild in many different sizes and colors

Population Protection

- Protected in many areas
- Without natural fires, denser forests outcompete pitcher plants for sunlight
- Prescribed burns, done by the Florida Park Service, are a way to apply natural process, ensure ecosystem health and reduce wildfire risk

