

Broadleaf helleborine

Epipactis helleborine

Description

First discovered in New York in 1879. It was a very popular plant with garden clubs, etc.

Habit

Erect, perennial, 1-3 ft. tall forb; several stems appear and are covered with a sparse woolly hair.

Leaves

Many (3-30), alternate, clasping, oval to lance-like, 3-15 cm long and 1.5-6(~7) cm wide.

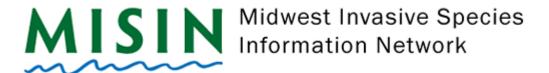
Stems

1-3 ft tall including flowering spike, simple, erect, herbaceous, tomentose with some arachnoid pubescence above, from thin rhizomes and fibrous roots. Hairs branched, translucent, clavate or crinkled.

Flowers

6-parted, 3/4-1 in. wide, lip is green-purple, petals and sepals dull green with purple veins, 4-12 in.





one-sided raceme, bracts below flowers are longer than the petals, flowers are nodding; blooms late June through August.

Fruits and Seeds

Fruit are capsule that are egg-shaped to ellipsoid, green with brownish lines, up to 0.6 in. (1.5 cm) long, and generally hairy.

Habitat

Native to Eurasia. Found in deciduous forests, roadsides; in limy soil and shaded woodland environments.

Reproduction

By seed.

Similar

Resembles native lilies such as Virginia bunchflower (Veratrum virginicum), Appalachian bunchflower (Veratrum parviflorum) and Green false hellebore (Veratrum viride).

Monitoring and Rapid Response

Hand-pulling is effective, chemical treatment is not needed.

Credits

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