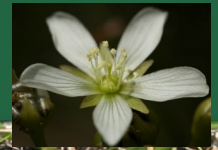


# VENUS FLYTRAP

*Dionaea muscipula*



**ID TIPS** Low-growing perennial plant with modified leaf “traps” consisting of 2 hinged lobes edged with small interlocking bristles.

**FLOWERS** Small white flowers on a 4-12 inch stalk from May to June with fruits maturing June through July.

**HABITAT** More common in the Coastal Plain, occurring in wet pine flatwoods and pine savannas on flat sites with moist soils for much of the year.

In the Sandhills, flytraps occur in narrow, moist areas between streamhead pocosins or seeps and longleaf pine uplands.

**CARNIVORY** While most of the plant’s energy is derived through photosynthesis, capturing and digesting insects provides nutrients not readily available in poor soils.

When the hair-like projections inside the “trap” are stimulated multiple times, the two lobes snap shut, trapping insects between them.

## ACTIVITIES & STRATEGIES

Frequent prescribed fire opens the understory and reduces woody encroachment, especially in pocosins and seep edges.

## EXAMPLE SCENARIO

Avoid bedding which can physically destroy plants and ditching and draining that can make the soil too dry for moisture-dependent Venus flytraps.

## TIMING

In areas with known populations, consider timing prescribed burns or other activities to minimize impacts to flowering and seed production between March and July.

## CONSERVATION STATUS

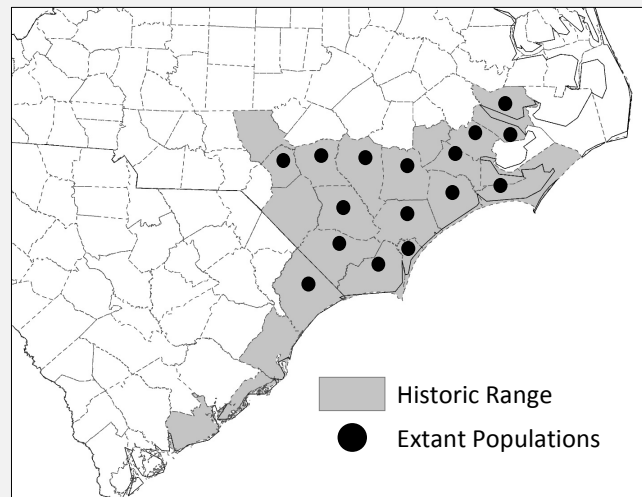
State special concern-vulnerable,  
Federal at-risk species

## FOREST USE AT A GLANCE

Pine savannas, seepage bogs,  
and pocosin edges

## SPECIES RANGE

Venus Flytraps are native to a small area in North and South Carolina.



**DID YOU KNOW?** Flytraps are in decline due to habitat changes from fire suppression, development, and hydrologic alterations. Poaching is also a serious threat and is a felony in 5 NC counties.