

Native Orchid of the Month—August

Habenaria quinqueseta
(longhorn bog orchid)

Habenaria quinqueseta (longhorn bog orchid), also known as Michaux's orchid, is found only along coastal areas from Texas to Georgia, but its range continues into Central and South America. It prefers dry to wet savannas and mixed flatwoods, swamps, meadows, and roadsides.

It stands erect with a height of 8 to 35 inches and has leaves up to 8-inches long scattered along the stem, sometimes reduced to bracts, and usually has between three and fifteen flowers.



The flowers are on a leafy spike at the top of the stem. They are white, ascending, showy and about 1 to 1 ½ inches long. The sepals are green with the dorsal sepal shallowly concave. The lateral sepals are descending and spreading; petals white and the lamina is ascending. This spur may be 2 to 4 inches long.

The fruit capsule is about 1-inch long and is held erect on a short stalk.

The longhorn bog orchid usually flowers in August.

