SPECIES AT-RISK LIST

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

For the benefit of the plant communities, wild animals, harvesters, farmers, consumers, manufacturers, retailers, and practitioners, we offer this list of wild medicinals of North America to bring awareness to these sensitive species.

Our intent is to assure the increasing abundance of medicinal plants and fungi which are presently in decline due to expanding popularity and shrinking habitat and range.

"Critical"

ELEPHANT TREE
Bursera microphylla

FALSE UNICORN
Chamaelirium luteum

LADY'S SLIPPER ORCHID
Cypripedium spp.

PEYOTE*
Lophophora williamsii

SANDALWOOD
Santalum spp. (Hawaii only)

SUNDEW
Drosera spp.

TRILLIUM, BETH ROOT
Trillium spp.

VENUS FLY TRAP
Dionaea muscipula

* Peyote restrictions do not pertain to ceremonial uses protected by US federal law.

"In Review"

ARNICA
Arnica spp.

CHAGA
Inonotus obliquus

EYEBRIGHT
Euphrasia spp.

GHOST PIPE
Monotropa uniflora

LOBELIA
Lobelia spp.

SKUNK CABBAGE
Symplocarpus foetidus

SOLOMON'S SEAL
Polygonatum biflorum

WILD CHERRY
Prunus serotina

WILD GERANIUM
Geranium maculatum

WILD RICE
Zizania palustris

YAUPON
Ilex vomitoria

YERBA SANTA
Eriodictyon spp.

"At-Risk"

AMERICAN GINSENG
Panax quinquefolius

BLACK COHOSH
Actaea racemosa

BLOODROOT
Sanguinaria canadensis

BLUE COHOSH
Caulophyllum thalictroides

CASCARA SAGRADA
Rhamnus purshiana

CHAPARRO
Castela emoryi

ECHINACEA
Echinacea spp.

GENTIAN
Gentiana spp.

GOLDENSEAL
Hydrastis canadensis

GOLDTHREAD
Coptis spp.

KAVA, AWA
Piper methysticum (Hawaii only)

LOMATIUM
Lomatium dissectum

MAIDENHAIR FERN
Adiantum pedatum

MAYAPPLE
Podophyllum peltatum

OREGON GRAPE
Berberis spp.

OSHA
Ligusticum porteri

PARTRIDGE BERRY
Mitchella repens

PINKROOT
Spigelia marilandica

PIPSISSEWA
Chimaphila umbellata

PLEURISY ROOT
Asclepias tuberosa

RAMPS
Allium tricoccum

SLIPPERY ELM
Ulmus rubra

SPIKENARD
Aralia racemosa, A. californica

STONE ROOT
Collinsonia canadensis

STREAM ORCHID
Epipactis spp.

TRUE UNICORN
Aletris farinosa

TURKEY CORN
Dicentra canadensis

VIRGINIA SNAKEROOT
Aristolochia serpentaria

WHITE SAGE
Salvia apiana

WILD INDIGO
Baptisia tinctoria

WILD YAM
Dioscorea spp.

YERBA MANSA
Anemopsis californica

List Definitions

"CRITICAL" DEFINITION

United Plant Savers recommends these plants should not be wild harvested or purchased under any circumstance except for research that directly supports the health of the population and sustainable use by Indigenous societies that have a traditional history of connection with these plants.

These species have been evaluated by the Board of Directors of UpS which carefully reserves this category for species that are federally, or state protected and/or are at a very high risk of extinction.

"AT-RISK" DEFINITION

The United Plant Savers recommends that At-Risk plants should be used in cultivated forms whenever possible. Because of pressures facing these plant populations and significant variability in abundance, wild harvesting should be very limited and carefully monitored. Any wild harvest of these plants should align with rules established by federal, state, and local governments.

"IN REVIEW" DEFINITION

The In Review list contains native plants that have significant known medicinal, edible, and/or ornamental uses that have been recommended through our membership or the UpS Board. We will review and, if necessary, score these plants for consideration for the At-Risk and Critical listing. We advise caution and careful consideration when using these plants for either personal or commercial use.