



Project BudBurst

A National Phenology Network Field Campaign for Citizen Scientists



www.budburst.org

Common Name: Trout Lily, Dogtooth Violet

Scientific Name: *Erythronium americanum*

Plant Family: Liliaceae

Identifying Characteristics:

Size: Trout Lily is a perennial forb, growing to 10 to 20 cm (4 to 8 in) in height.

Leaves: Pair of elliptic leaves 10 to 15 cm (4 to 6 in) long; pale green and mottled with purplish brown

Flowers: 3.75 cm (1.5 in) bell-shaped yellow flower on a stalk; the six perianth parts curve backward and are often tinged with purple on the back

Habitat: Moist, well-drained, humus soil; partial shade to shade; rich woods and bottomlands

Bloom time: Early spring



Photograph by Thomas G. Barnes @ USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database

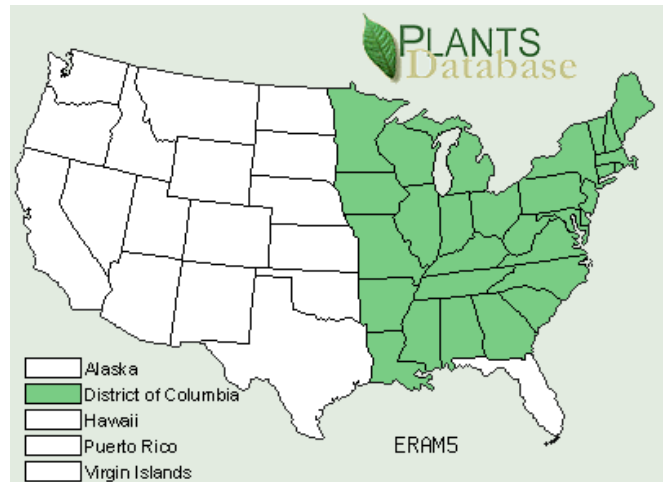


Photograph by Thomas G. Barnes @ USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database

Phenological observation:

First Flower

Distribution Area:



Map courtesy of USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database (plants.usda.gov)

Did you know? Traditionally the bulbs and leaves of this species were eaten, either raw or cooked. The plant was also used medicinally to heal ulcers and as a contraceptive. The plant is believed to be mildly emetic and antibiotic.