

Alabama Leather Flower

ALF092507

IDENTIFICATION: The Alabama Leather Flower (*Clematis socialis*) grows in full sunlight near forest edges. It prefers wet silty-clay flats near creeks and streams, and is often surrounded by grasses and sedges. It is an erect herb about 7 - 12 inches tall with a blue-violet, dangling, bell-shaped flower that appears in April and May.

FORESTRY CONSIDERATIONS: Activities that dry out sites or disturb soils are harmful to this plant. It is a poor competitor and suffers when the canopy is open too much, but should withstand thinning if not done with heavy equipment. Mechanical site prep would likely destroy it.

DISTRIBUTION BY COUNTY: Found only in Cherokee, Etowah and St. Clair counties in Alabama.

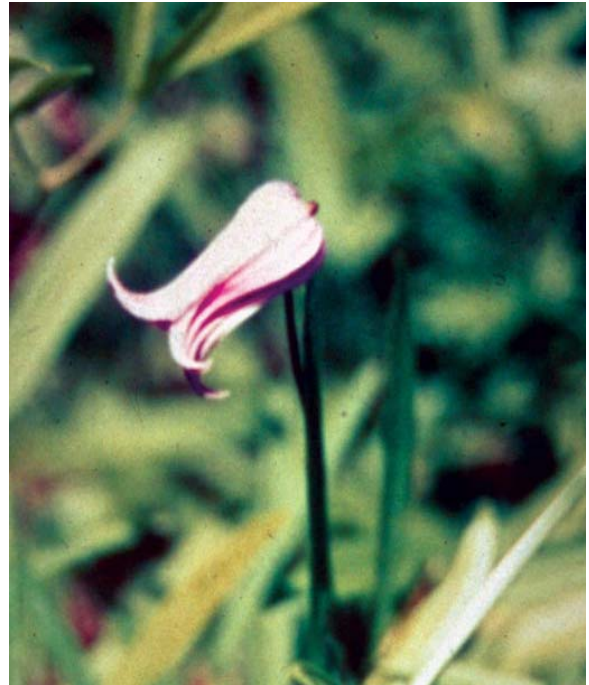


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