

Plant Propagation Protocol for *Monotropa uniflora*

ESRM 412 – Native Plant Production

Protocol URL: <https://courses.washington.edu/esrm412/protocols/MOUN3.pdf>



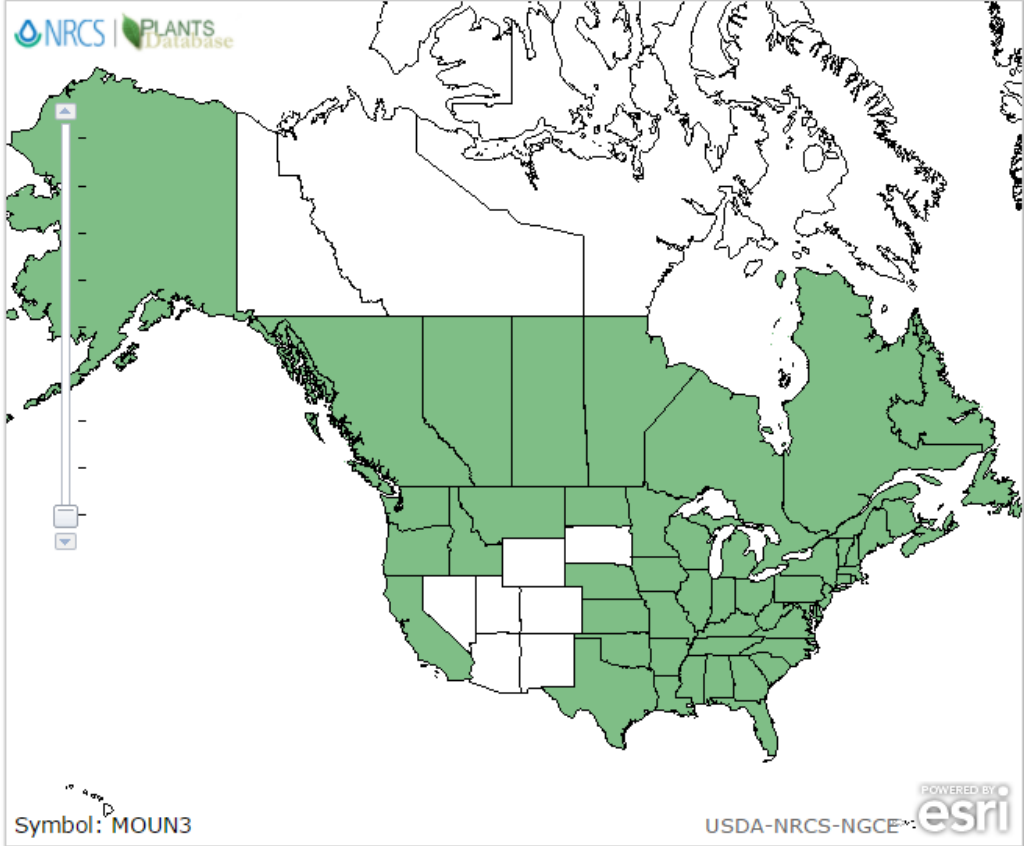
(Illinois Wildflower)

TAXONOMY

Plant Family	
Scientific Name	Monotropeaceae (Formerly Ericaceae)
Common Name	Indian Pipe Family (Formerly Heath family)
Species	
Scientific Name	
Scientific Name	<i>Monotropa uniflora</i> L.
Varieties	<i>Monotropa uniflora</i> L., var. <i>typica</i> (Domin) <i>Monotropa uniflora</i> L., var. <i>coccinea</i> (Zucarini) <i>Monotropa uniflora</i> var. <i>australis</i> (Domin) (Atlas of Florida Plants)
Sub-species	
Cultivar	
Common Synonym(s)	<i>Hypopitys uniflora</i> (Linnaeus) <i>Monotopa brittonii</i> (Small) <i>Monotropa coccinea</i> (Zuccarini) <i>Monotropa coccinea</i> Z., var. <i>mexicana</i> (Lange) <i>Monotropa coccinea</i> Z., var. <i>nicaraguensis</i> (Lange) <i>Monotropa humilis</i> (Don) <i>Monotropa morisoniana</i> (Michaux) <i>Monotropa morisonii</i> (Persoon) <i>Monotropa uniflora</i> (Linnaeus) <i>forma rosea</i> (Fosberg) (Atlas of Florida Plants)
Common Name(s)	Ghost plant, ghost flower, ice plant, corpse plant (Pojar, 2004)

Species Code (as per USDA Plants database)	MOUN3
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GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographical range	North America, Central America, Eastern Asia (Neyland & Hennigan, 2004). Critically imperiled in Alaska (Nova Scotia Wild Flora Society). North American Distribution  Symbol: MOUN3 USDA-NRCS-NGCE Native Introduced Both Absent/Unreported Native, No County Data Introduced, No County Data Both, No County Data
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	Pacific Northwest Distribution Symbol: MOUN3 USDA-NRCS-NGCE esri ■ Native ■ Native, No County Data ■ Introduced ■ Introduced, No County Data ■ Both ■ Both, No County Data Absent/Unreported Native Status: ● L48 ● AK HI PR VI NAV ● CAN GL ● SPM NA
Ecological distribution	Occurs at low elevations in the humus of shaded, mature, coniferous forests (Pojar, 2004).
Climate and elevation range	Altitude up to 3000 meters (Bebeau, 2015).
Local habitat and abundance	In the Pacific Northwest, often grows in forests where <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> is dominant and is an indicator of wood mushrooms. (Pojar, 2004). Associated with <i>Fagus</i> in Florida (Serene, 2000 & Carns, 2004).
Plant strategy type / successional stage	<i>M. uniflora</i> is achlorophyllous and therefore is unable to photosynthesize. <i>M. uniflora</i> is a mycoheterotrophic perennial and utilizes mycorrhizal associations to obtain nutrients (Bidartondo & Bruns, 2001).
Plant characteristics	Perennial. Insect pollinated. Seeds have membranous wing for wind dispersal (Bebeau, 2015; Serene, 2000 & Carns, 2004).
PROPAGATION DETAILS	
Ecotype	
Propagation Goal	Plants
Propagation Method	Seed
Product Type	Propagules
Stock Type	

Time to Grow	No data found
Target Specifications	5-25 cm (Pojar, 2004)
Propagule Collection Instructions	Flowers between May – October. Young flowers nod facing the ground and become erect when pollinated. (Serene, 2000 & Carns, 2004) Allow capsule to dry on plant. Harvest seeds by breaking open mature capsules. Produces dust-like seeds (Johansson et al., 2017)
Propagule Processing/Propagule Characteristics	100 seeds per capsule (Bebeau, 2015).
Pre-Planting Propagule Treatments	Seeds should be sieved to remove debris (Bidartondo, 2005).
Growing Area Preparation / Annual Practices for Perennial Crops	Monotropoideae germination is triggered by cues produced by closely related fungi. Development slows or is stopped if seeds germinate in response to the wrong fungi. Typically associated with ectomycorrhizal species of <i>Russula</i> (Kong et al., 2015). Abundant woodland humus and the presence of appropriate fungi are required for survival. <i>M. uniflora</i> has delicate root systems that resist transplanting (Illinois Wildflowers).
Establishment Phase Details	No data found
Length of Establishment Phase	No data found
Active Growth Phase	No data found
Length of Active Growth Phase	No data found
Hardening Phase	No data found
Length of Hardening Phase	No data found
Harvesting, Storage and Shipping	No data found
Length of Storage	Seeds can be stored up to two months (Bidartondo, 2005). In a natural context, seeds can remain viable for several years (Johansson et al., 2017).
Guidelines for Outplanting / Performance on Typical Sites	Cultivating Indian Pipe is very difficult, if not impossible; plants that are transplanted from the wild are highly unlikely to survive (Illinois Wildflowers). Height: Stems 5-25cm tall (Pojar, 2004) Light requirements: sun, part shade, shade (LBJ Wildflower Center). Does not photosynthesize, so can tolerate shade (Illinois Wildflowers). pH requirements: 5.1 to 5.5 (strongly acidic) 5.6 to 6.0 (acidic) 6.1 to 6.5 (mildly acidic)
Other Comments	

INFORMATION SOURCES

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