

# Spider Lily

(*Hymenocallis coronaria*)



## Relatives

Member of the Family Amaryllidaceae (Amaryllis Family), which includes the rain-lily and the swamp-lily.

## Description

Have long "strap-shaped" leaves. Flowers are white with a "spider-like" appearance, located at the end of the long stalks.

## Size

3ft (1m) tall

## Habitat

Form colonies in rocky shoals within large Piedmont rivers. Found in only two Piedmont counties in South Carolina.

## Predators

Eaten by insects with piercing mouth parts that withdraw plant juices such as aphids and spider mites.

## Diet/Prey

N/A

## Reproduction

Spider-lilies are pollinated by moths, mainly the hawk moth and sphinx moth. Have two ways to reproduce: 1) produce bulbs that split from existing bulbs and get lodged in rock crevices on the bottom 2) develop seeds when the flower matures.

## Adaptations

- Spider-lilies have leaves that are able to turn energy from the sun into food energy.
- Spider-lilies grow upwards towards the sun's rays.
- Spider lilies have flowers that produce a mild fragrance during the evening to attract moths responsible for pollination.
- Spider lilies have specific habitat requirements that consist of clean, fast-flowing, well-oxygenated water over a rocky bottom. Spider lilies produce seeds that do not float. The advantage to having seeds that do not float is that the seeds are not carried away from the specialized habitats they need for survival.