



## Stroll Through the App

1. Browse and create a list of four of your favorite plants.
  - Answer: Open the App, tap Browse, search for Species, then tap the yellow star.
2. In which Natural Community can you find *Calopogon tuberosa* (Grass pink)
  - Answer: Bogs, fens, seeps, pocosins, boggy power lines in any of the counties shown in the range map (see Habitat in the plant's Description).
  - You may also come across the species as being listed in the Natural Communities section, e.g. in Appalachian Bogs, low-elevation (<3,000 ft) non-alluvial wetlands in the Blue Ridge and Cumberland mountains
  - You can only use the App to understand some of the natural communities in which a species might occur, and you can rely on the Habitat description as being accurate.
  - Note in the Habitat description that their global status is secure but the State status is imperiled or critically imperiled (S1S2) and the species is at risk or high risk for extinction.
3. You are creating a list of plants that could grow in the Piedmont province with "full" sun and with a "dry" moisture regime (well-draining soil, often at the top of, or on a slope). Without considering anything else about the plant, look at the Descriptions of each to determine which of the following are an option to plant.
  - Answer: a, c, d, e, f
  - Look at each description habitat/search characteristics and range map
    - a. *Andropogon gyrans*, Elliott's Bluestem (**moist-dry, part -full sun**)
    - b. *Andropogon glomeratus* (wet)
    - c. *Asclepias tuberosa* (**moist-dry, part to full sun**)
    - d. *Liatris pilosa* (**dry, part to full sun**)
    - e. *Liatris squarrosa* (dry, part to full sun)
    - f. Maryland Golden aster (dry-moist, part to full sun)
    - g. Purple lovegrass (dry-moist, part to full sun)
    - h. Hollow Joe Pye (moist to wet, shade to full sun)
    - i. White Turtlehead (moist to wet, shade to full sun)
4. If a red dot does not occur in a county, then that plant does not exist in that county.
  - Answer: False. Hundreds of new plant records are found annually.

5. It's always a good idea to answer all questions before viewing the Graphic Key results.
  - Answer: False, not necessary. Search results are based on one or more characteristics, and *may* narrow down with more characteristics selected. It is wise to not answer questions that you are not sure of the answer. It's a good idea to review the list of results as you answer questions, instead of waiting until the end.
6. All plants in the FOV App are listed as native or non-native.
  - Answer: False, for some species nativity is unknown or uncertain.
7. Where would you find the answer to the question "What is a crenate leaf margin?"
  - Answer: a type of Toothed margin. See Botanical Help>Leaves for illustration or the Glossary for definition
8. Name a community or habitat and region where you might find these three plants growing together: *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*, *Taxodium distichum*, and *Caltha palustris*?
  - Answer: Swamps of the coastal plain, specifically those with calcium-rich water. Look at habitats and range maps to see where they overlap, e.g. cypress is found in alluvial, tidal, and nonriverine swamp forests.
9. What are seven types of arrangements for a flower inflorescence?
  - Answer: See Botanical Help>Flower Basics> Inflorescences for illustration. There's no need to memorize the list with the handy popup glossary in the definitions.
10. What things you should look at to verify the identity of a plant?
  - Answer: All but the Guide to Cultivated Plants. The App data is based on thousands of plot surveys by DHR biologists.
11. A friend has texted you a picture of a plant "growing everywhere" in their lawn and suggested it is *Cardamine pensylvanica*. A quick look at the photos suggests the ID could be correct. How would you proceed to verify? Is the identity accurate?
  - Answer: No! Browse to the species *C. pensylvanica* and consult the range map. Read the Description and characteristics. Also note the graphic key shows that *pennsylvanica* is found in water, wet, or moist places. The lawn habitat is not plausible.
  - The species is *Cardamine hirsuta*, hairy bittercress, which looks similar and has a similar distribution but with a habitat that matches the description provided. *C. pensylvanica*, according to the habitat, should not be found growing rampant in a yard and is restricted to seepage swamps.



12. How many species are in the genus *Alnus*?

- Answer: Some 25-30 species worldwide, with 3 species in Virginia (See Genus Profile in species description or Dichotomous Key),

13. Besides identification, what are three ways to use the App? (see Reference Library)

- To verify nativity or conservation status in Virginia
- To generate a list of personal favorite plants
- To print a list of plants found in a particular Natural Community in Virginia
- To verify the geographic range or moisture requirements of a particular species
- For botanical history research
- To plan a field trip
- To better understand Virginia's biogeography

14. What is one topic that can be found in the Organization of This Field Guide (see About/Contact Us)?

- Answer: See the list, i.e. when you tap this field

15. Who should be contacted to suggest a correction to the App?

- Answer: [feedback@highcountryapps.com](mailto:feedback@highcountryapps.com) (#5 in About Us)

16. Find one hot spot you would like to visit.

- Answer: See 50 Hotspots for botanizing

17. Where would you go, and when would you visit, to see *Rhododendron calendulaceum* (Flame Azalea) in bloom?

- Answer: Western Virginia about 3,000 ft and at higher elevations of the Southern and Central Appalachians. The answer can be found by doing a species search, then reading the Description and looking at its Range. You can also read Natural Communities descriptions, e.g. Northern Red Oak, then look at that range map. You can consult the section 50 Hot Spots and scan SW regions for particular locations to visit.
- Also, a species search on Dept of Conservation (DCR) website resulted in a blog photo for Fairystone State Park.
- Another resource is [DNH Preserves with Public Access Facilities](#)
- BTW, this shrub was [VNPS 2000 Wildflower of the Year](#).

18. Pick one native you would plant in your yard or donate to a local park.

- Answer – The genus *Asclepias* was one of the most frequently mentioned.