

Clintonia borealis

Native to Maine

Blue-bead Lily
Yellow Clintonia

Upland
Forests

Leaves



Robert H. Mohlenbrock, USDA-NRCS



Each stalk has 2-4 large, parallel veined (veins go in the same direction and do not cross), green, glossy leaves that grow from the bottom of the plant. The leaves are curved and slightly succulent (fleshy).

LEAF ARRANGEMENT	LEAF TYPE	LEAF/LEAFLET SHAPE	LEAF/LEAFLET EDGE
 ALTERNATE	 SIMPLE	 LOBED	 SMOOTH
 OPPOSITE	 COMPOUND-PALMATE	 OVAL	 TOOTHED
 ROSETTE	 COMPOUND-PINNATE	 ROUND	 WAVY

Plant



Wiki Commons user Choess



Look for small, 15-30 cm tall, perennial (living three or more years) plants that grow in shaded forest areas. The Bluebead lily typically grows in groups.

Stem



Flickr user peupleloup



The stems of the lily are flowering stalks. They are 10-30 cm long, thin, green and flexible.

Seasonal Change



Flickr user *Micky



Look for greenish-yellow flowers in groups of 3 to 5 flowers in May and June. At the top of the plant small dark blue berries grow in mid to late summer.

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Similar Species

C. umbellulata (white clintonia) has similar leaves to *C. borealis* (large leaves growing at the bottom of the plant). Differences are flower and berry color. *C. borealis* has greenish-yellow flowers and blue berries and *C. umbellulata* has white flowers and speckled black berries.

Fun Fact

Bear hunters are said to have rubbed their traps with the roots of the Blue-bead lily because they believed that bears are attracted to the odor of the roots.