

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT  
HERITAGE DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Plant Abstract

Element Code: PMLILOT010

Data Sensitivity: No

**CLASSIFICATION, NOMENCLATURE, DESCRIPTION, RANGE**

**NAME:** *Eremocrinum albomarginatum* (M.E. Jones) M.E. Jones

**COMMON NAME:** Utah solitaire lily, Intermountain False-wheatgrass, Desert lily, lonely-lily, Sand lily

**SYNONYMS:** *Hesperanthes albomarginata* M.E. Jones

**FAMILY:** Liliaceae

**AUTHOR, PLACE OF PUBLICATION:** *Eremocrinum albomarginatum* (M.E. Jones) M.E. Jones, Zoë 4: 53. 1893. *Hesperanthes albomarginata* M.E. Jones, Zoë 2: 251. 1891.

**TYPE LOCALITY:** United States of America, Utah, Green River.

**TYPE SPECIMEN:** HT: NY-319726. M.E. Jones s.n., 9 May 1890. IT: GH.

**TAXONOMIC UNIQUENESS:** The only species in the genus *Eremocrinum*.

**DESCRIPTION:** Slender, erect plants 1-3.5(-4) dm [4-13.8(-15.7) in] tall above ground, arising from a fibrous-sheathed base terminating a short thickened rhizome and thickened yellowish roots (tuberous). The leaves are linear, erect to spreading, often surpassing the scapes, but commonly coiled or reclining on the ground, and usually white-margined. Leaves measure 10-40 x 0.1-0.3 cm (4-15.7 x 0.05-0.12 in), while the sheaths measures (4-)5-8(-10) x 0.5-0.9 cm [(1.6-)2-3(-4) x 0.2-0.4 in]. Inflorescences with thin bracts, membranous and whitish or sometimes chartaceous and greenish, triangular to awl-shaped, 0.3-2 cm long; stamens included. Flowers are numerous, white to greenish-white with 3 greenish to brown midveins on the back of the segments, and arranged up a central stalk that may be as much as 30 cm (12 in) tall; perianth 1-2 cm, tube 0.4-1 cm; anthers 2.5-3 mm; style 3-4 mm; pedicel erect, peg-like, 1 mm, concealed by bracts. The capsules are 4-6 mm long; black seeds are 2-3 mm long.

**AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION:** *Leucocrinum montanum* is distinguishable from *E. albomarginatum* by having the peduncles originating underground and the perianth segments united below into a long tube.

**ILLUSTRATIONS:** Color photo (Taylor, 1998: p. 159)  
Line drawing (Cronquist et al., 1977: p. 481)  
Color photo (Steere et al., 1970: plate 11)  
Line drawing (FNA 1993+, in

[http://www.efloras.org/florataxon.aspx?flora\\_id=1&taxon\\_id=220004847](http://www.efloras.org/florataxon.aspx?flora_id=1&taxon_id=220004847))

Color photos (In <http://www.swcoloradowildflowers.com/>)

Line drawing (Anderson, 1996)

**TOTAL RANGE:** Endemic to the Colorado Plateau in southern Utah (San Juan Co.) and northern Arizona.

**RANGE WITHIN ARIZONA:** Colorado Plateau in Apache and Navajo counties.

### **SPECIES BIOLOGY AND POPULATION TRENDS**

**GROWTH FORM:** Perennial forb/herb.

**PHENOLOGY:** April to June.

#### **BIOLOGY:**

**HABITAT:** Occurs in sandy places and “salt desert” shrub communities, usually in “blow” sand or on sand dunes.

**ELEVATION:** 4,967 – 5,500 ft (1515-1678 m). In southern Utah, about 3,688-6,213 ft (1125-1895 m).

#### **EXPOSURE:**

**SUBSTRATE:** Sand: collected on red sand of hummocky slope.

**PLANT COMMUNITY:** Blackbrush, Vanclevea, sand sagebrush, purple sage, Ephedra, ricegrass-galleta, shadscale, and other sand and salt desert shrub communities (Welsh et al., 1993). Associated species include: *Ephedra* (Mormon tea), *Poliomintha* (Rosemary-mint), and *Yucca*.

**POPULATION HISTORY AND TRENDS:** Unknown.

### **SPECIES PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION**

**ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT STATUS:** None

**STATE STATUS:** Salvage Restricted (ARS, ANPL 1999)  
[Salvage Restricted (ARS, ANPL 1993)]

**OTHER STATUS:** Forest Service Sensitive (USDA, FS Region 3)

1999)

**MANAGEMENT FACTORS:****PROTECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN:****SUGGESTED PROJECTS:****LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP:** BIA – Navajo Nation.**SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION****REFERENCES:**

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#### MAJOR KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIVIDUALS:

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

"*Eremocrinum*" is the Greek for "Desert Lily" and "*albomarginatum*" could refer to the "white margined" flowers and/or the "white-margined" leaves. (<http://www.swcoloradowildflowers.com/>).

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