



Jack-in-the-pulpit

Arisaema atrorubens

Kingdom: Plantae
Division/Phylum: Anthophyta
Class:
Order:
Family:

FEATURES

The Jack-in-the-pulpit, or Indian turnip, is a perennial plant that grows from an underground corm. It does not have leaf-bearing stems. The one or two leaves present grow from the base of the plant and may reach more than one foot tall. Each leaf is divided into three leaflets which are smooth and without teeth around the edges. The flowers lack petals and are clustered together at the base of a cylindrical column, called a spadix. The spadix is covered by a leaflike structure that encircles it and arches over the top. This structure, called a spathe, may be green, purple or purple striped. This arrangement is how the common name of the plant was derived (the "Jack" or preacher in his covered pulpit). The fruit is a red berry.

BEHAVIORS

The Jack-in-the-pulpit may be found statewide in Illinois. It grows in woods. The Jack-in-the-pulpit flowers in April and May.

HABITATS

- bottomland forests
- coniferous forest
- southern Illinois lowlands
- upland deciduous forest

ILLINOIS STATUS

- common
- endangered
- threatened
- native
- exotic

ILLINOIS RANGE

Permanent resident: statewide

Summer resident:

Migrant:

Winter resident:

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Illinois Department of Natural Resources. 1999.
Biodiversity of Illinois, Volume 2: Woodland Habitats CD-ROM.