**Isotria verticillata**

Large Whorled Pogonia

The Large Whorled Pogonia is common in the mixed, moist forests throughout the central and eastern United States but is rare at the edges of its range. This orchid has not been seen in Canada for 20 years and is one of Florida’s most endangered orchids. The single flower has yellowish green petals, purple sepals and a pale lip often striped with purple. The purplish brown stem distinguishes this orchid from its relative, the federally threatened Small Whorled Pogonia, *Isotria medeoloides*. The Large Whorled Pogonia forms colonies that seem to move across the forest floor at a turtle’s pace, travelling 2 feet in 10 years. Expanding into new areas, the Pogonia colony finds new resources that are depleted at the original site.

To learn more about the Large Whorled Pogonia, scan the QR code with your phone or visit the species page on Go Orchids at goorchids.northamericanorchidcenter.org.
This is what the paper Large Whorled Pogonia will look like when built.