The Rose Pogonia grows in wet, boggy areas across eastern North America, from Newfoundland to southern Florida and west to Texas. Habitat, not temperature, is the most important factor that controls its distribution. This orchid does not compete well with larger more aggressive plants and relies on fire to keep its habitat open. Hungry bees are attracted by the flower’s raspberry scent and the densely fringed pink lip with yellow bristles, and pollinate the flower as they search for nectar. But this orchid doesn’t need to rely on pollinators to make new plants. Small buds that appear on the roots of the Rose Pogonia become the first stem and leaf of a new plant. Even after the original plant dies, these new plants continue to grow. This ability to make new shoots from old roots is quite rare among orchids, and allows a large colony to develop from a single Rose Pogonia.

To learn more about the Rose Pogonia, scan the QR code with your phone or visit the species page on Go Orchids at goorchids.northamericanorchidcenter.org

The goal of the North American Orchid Conservation Center (NAOCC), established by the Smithsonian Institution and the United States Botanic Garden, is to assure the survival of native orchids in the U.S. and Canada. To learn more about NAOCC and what you can do for orchid conservation, visit: www.northamericanorchidcenter.org
This is what the paper Rose Pogonia will look like when built: