

Not only is North Carolina being attacked on the botanical front, this haven of a remarkable number of reptile and amphibian species is now suffering poaching of the latter. Of CP interest in the article is a sidebar of a half a page including a photo describing briefly problems with poaching of *Dionaea*. Mainly due to habitat destruction and degradation, the plant is now absent from eight of the original 18 North and South Carolina counties in which it was once found by the many thousands. In spite of higher fines and closer monitoring of public lands, poaching of diminishing numbers of the plant has increased due to greater demand and prices. In one area, 25 documented digs were noted in one year, but only one perpetrator was caught.

**Earley, LS. 1993.** A most wonderful plant. Wildlife in North Carolina. 57:2-3. This is a brief introductory one page summary article. It has several nice pencil drawings including shaded and cross views of stages of trap closure, and a map showing how the range of *Dionaea* has diminished. It is now mostly restricted to coastal areas except for an inward extension corresponding to the Green Swamp.

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## CARNIVOROUS PLANTS IN FIORDLAND NATIONAL PARK, NEW ZEALAND

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In January 1991, I embarked on a trip to seek out C.P.s in the far S.W. corner of our South Island, Fiordland National Park. Covering some 1,214,000 hectares it is N.Z.s largest national park which includes pristine beech Forest, lakes, fiords and snow capped mountain peaks.

I took the boat from Manapouri across Lake Manapouri (an ancient glacial lake) to its west arm and the start of the Dusky Sound Track. I walked through tall Beech forest festooned with moss and crossed streams on 3 wire bridges as the track followed the Spey River to its source. Everything was dripping wet and small streamlets were in abundance. F.N.P. gets more than 6 m of rain annually.

After 5 hours I arrived at Warren Burn, an open grassy sphagnum swamp, which I had to cross to reach the hut where I intended to stay. Warren Burn is a natural haven for bag plants and was covered with large patches of our native orchid *Aporostylis bifolia* in mass flower. This distinctive little orchid has mottled green leaves and a single white flower atop a tall scape. There were also masses of *D. arcturi* everywhere. End they grew especially dense in the wettest areas. Their sparse bronze colored leaves grew to a height of over 10 cm and glistened with dew. Many leaves were without prey although a few had caught small crane flies.

In a higher part of the swamp where it was more peaty I found *D. arcturi* and *D. spatulata* growing together. The *D. arcturi* leaves were much shorter here being only 5 cm long and darker in colour. The *D. spatulata* measured about 2 cm across and were a nice red colour with numerous plants beginning to flower. The flowers, about 5 per scape, open one at a time and are about 5 mm across and pure white. *D. spatulata* seemed to be present only in this small area.

After taking many photos I retired to the hut to escape the persistent hordes of bloodsucking sandflies. The next morning I started early to climb At Memphis. After climbing through forest for about half an hour the trees began to thin out and large open areas appeared. These patches were very boggy and water was continuously seeping down the hill. It was here that I found the first colonies of *D. stenopetala* along with the ever present *D. arcturi*. The leaves were upright like *D. anglica*, spatulate and of a reddish bronze colour. The petioles of this species are distinctively canaliculate and the single white flower is borne on a tall scape about twice as high as its leaves. Further up the mountain *D. stenopetala* became smaller and much redder as its habitat became drier and more exposed. Both *D. arcturi* and *D. stenopetala* grow much

larger in wetter, sheltered areas than they do in open exposed situations. With the large numbers of these two species growing in close proximity on this mountain I never found a single hybrid.

*D. stenopetala* disappeared at about 2000 ft and were not found at the top of the mountain. At least I think it was the top. All I could see was the inside of a very grey cloud.

I made it back to the hut just as the rain began to fall. I did not find any *U. monanthos* which also grows in these mountains, but as anyone knows a *utricularia* without a flower is almost impossible to find. The next morning I left early in the pouring rain with a pair of fast walking Germans so that I could catch the first boat back to civilization and a hot shower. Unfortunately this was not to be as we managed to lose the track and find the biggest, deepest mud hole you could ever imagine. Needless to say we missed the first boat but luckily there were showers at the visitors centre to bring the warmth back to my bones.

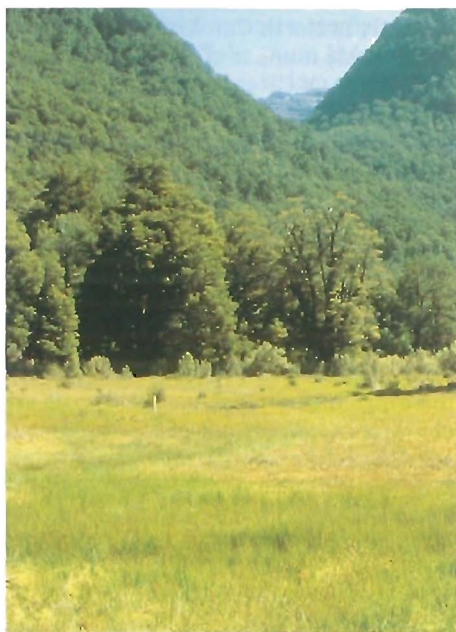


Figure 1. Warren Burn Swamp, Fiordland National Park, New Zealand.

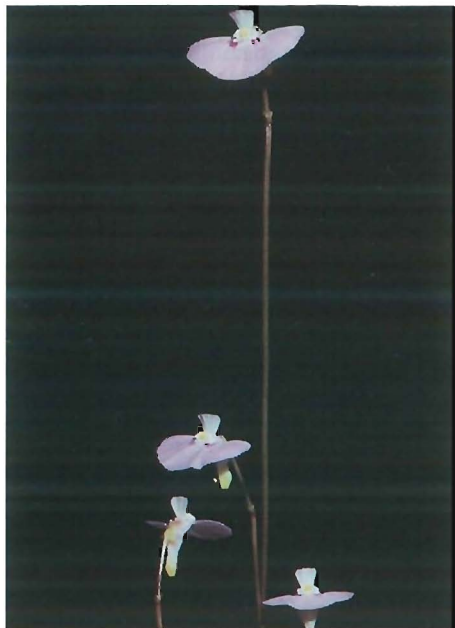


Figure 1: *U. uniflora* in flower



Figure 2: An overhead view of a *U. uniflora* flower

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Front cover: *Dosera arcturi*, Warren Burn Swamp, Fiordland National Park, New Zealand.

Rear Cover: *Dosera stenopetala*, Mt. Memphis, Fiordland National Park, New Zealand. Both photos by Bruce Salmon. See article this issue.

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