

## Native Orchid of the Month—January

### *Calopogon barbatus* (bearded grass-pink)

*Calopogon barbatus* (bearded grass-pink) is one of the earliest orchids to appear in spring in moist, acidic bogs, savannas and grasslands. It is a small (typically less than 6 inches) tall terrestrial with one-inch flowers typically opening semi-sequentially up the raceme. The upper stem is often purplish.



The plant consists of a small corm with a single, narrow leaf in addition to the flowering stem on mature plants. Flower color ranges from white to deep magenta. The lip is the upright topmost petal and it bears a beard of yellow club-shaped hairs.

This species is distinguished by a narrow leaf that is closely appressed to the inflorescence at flowering and continues to elongate during growing season.

Its range is limited to coastal states from western Louisiana to North Carolina.

