

2017 October *Guess that Plant*



Ipomopsis rubra (L.) Wherry, Standing Cypress; Scarlet or Red Gilia

The October *Guess that Plant* was *Ipomopsis rubra*. Standing cypress is member of the Phlox family, Polemoniaceae. The plant is a biennial and occupies open, dry landscapes from southern New Jersey southwest to Texas. In New Jersey the only population with any regularity is the long standing colony in the Manumusken River watershed. The species is listed by Mary Hough (1983) as introduced in Cumberland County. It may be a transient plant arriving on commercial rail and truck traffic from similar southern habitats. The plants flower in late August through October, and are identified by the vibrant, scarlet, trumpet shaped flowers.

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