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A NEWLY NAMED FLORAL VARIANT: *DARLINGTONIA CALIFORNICA* F. *VIRIDIFLORA*
(SARRACENIACEAE)

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Darlingtonia californica Torrey f. ***viridiflora*** B.Rice, f. nov.

LATIN DIAGNOSIS. *Darlingtonia californica* f. *californica* similis sed differt solum pigmentatione rubra omnibus partibus plantae carente — petalis flavo-viridibus nec rubris.

ENGLISH DIAGNOSIS. Differing from *Darlingtonia californica* f. *californica* only in the lack of red pigmentation throughout the plant — petals are bright yellow-green instead of red.

TYPE. Type specimen #BR970805 collected 19 August 1997, 1800m a.s.l., Nevada County, California. Filed at DAV(135140).

HABITAT AND RANGE. Found only at one site in the wild. This location—a wet seepage bordered by *Alnus*—houses an isolated but grand stand of thousands of red-flowering *Darlingtonia*. *Darlingtonia californica* f. *viridiflora* plants are scattered within this population. It is difficult to estimate the population of the rare form, but probably 50-150 plants are present. The nearest known populations of *Darlingtonia* occur 5 km to the northwest and 37 km to the west—no *Darlingtonia californica* f. *viridiflora* plants have been detected at these or other locations.

COMMENT. The site where this form is found is the furthest-south naturally occurring population of *Darlingtonia* known, either currently or from documented records. The elevation is relatively high for *Darlingtonia*, but many other colonies occur at even higher elevations. This site is privately owned, and access is prohibited without prior permission from the landholders. Fortunately, the owners are interested in managing the site for the *Darlingtonia*, and a conservation easement is in place to help protect the site. Even so, the site and its plants are critically endangered because of potential changes in hydrology that might occur because of logging activity in the area. Repeated incursions by poorly managed free-range cattle have also damaged the population. The risks from such stresses are elevated because of the site's small size. Seeds from the plants have been widely distributed, and specimens are in cultivation around the world. This form is extremely slow-growing in cultivation. The horticultural cultivar name *Darlingtonia* 'Othello' treats the same plants as delineated by the name *Darlingtonia californica* f. *viridiflora*.