

Albuca humilis

Amanda Jacobson

Taxonomy

- *Albuca humilis*
 - ▣ *Ornithogalum humile*
 - Hyacinthaceae
- Asparagaceae
- Approx. 150 species
- “slime lilies”

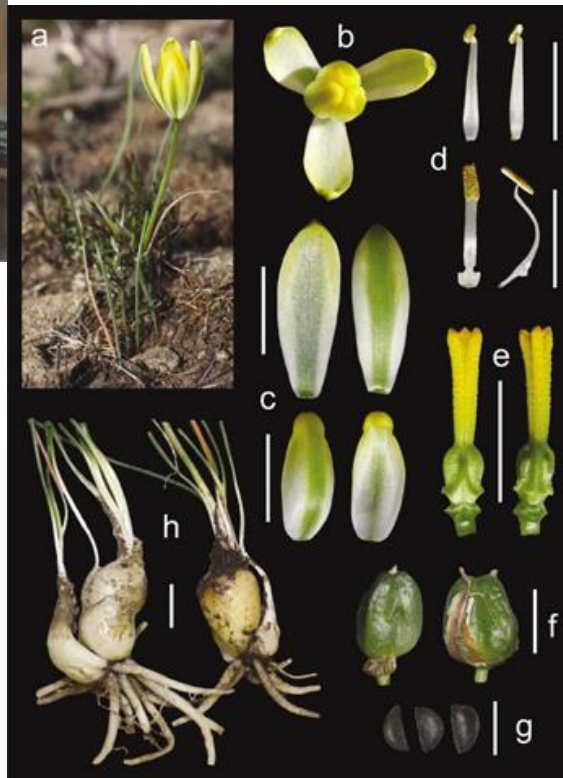


Discovery and Description

- John Gilbert Baker (1834-1920)
 - Edmund Baker (1864-1949)



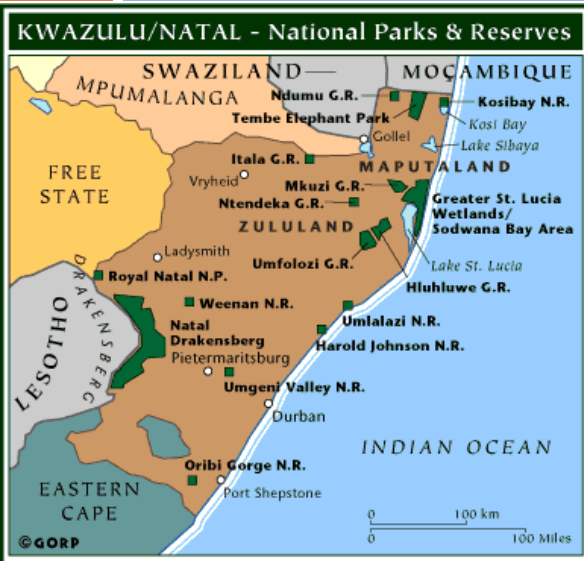
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/arts/yourpaintings/paintings/john-gilbert-baker-18341920-87580>



- Perennial bulb
- 3 petals and 3 sepals
- White sepals with green band
- White petals with green band and yellow tips
- Green leaves similar to chives 6-12" long
 - Evergreen or deciduous
- Blooms late spring-summer

http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/store/10.1111/j.1756-1051.2011.00944.x/asset/image_n/NJB_944_f2.jpg?v=1&t=hutiam0h&s=0e272ebf17d162992170f69c24e224c94a2be8b1

Geographic Distribution



- Kwazulu Natal, South Africa
- Lesotho, Swaziland, Mozambique
- Prominent in midlands and mountainous highlands to elevation of 2800m
- Temperate to sub-tropical to semi-arid climate
- USDA zones 7-10

http://away.com/hiking-guide/travel-ta-south-africa-birdwatching-scuba-diving-hiking-sidwcmdev_053580.html



<http://www.kznenergy.org.za/solar-maps-for-kzn-published/>

Growth Environment

- ❑ Grows mainly in seams or rock sheets, gravel, sandy, rocky grassland
- ❑ Well-drained soil
- ❑ Propagates through either seed or bulbils
- ❑ Heat and drought tolerant
- ❑ Tolerates light frost



My plants



- Direct sow
- 89.2% germination
- Transplant after sprouted
- Initially slow to grow
 - ▣ Bulb formation

Suggested Market and Development

- Summer container
- Potted indoor plant
 - ▣ Succulents
 - ▣ Amaryllis
- Mother's Day

- Winter hardiness
- Pest resistance



<http://photozou.jp/photo/show/308634/148434830>



<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hippeastrum>

Production

- Faster production available through bulbils
- Sow seeds early
 - ▣ 2 weeks
- Transplant into a light soil mix
- Apply insecticides
- Sell in either finished pots or like a succulent

Other *Albuca* spp.

Albuca spiralis—Frizzle sizzle



<http://ivynettle.wordpress.com/2011/05/22/oooh-shiny-curly/>

Albuca nelsonii—Natal albuca



http://www.bulbsociety.org/GALLERY_OF_THE_WORLDS_BULBS/GRAPHICS/Albuca/Albuca_nelsonii/Albuca_nelsonii.html

Works cited:

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