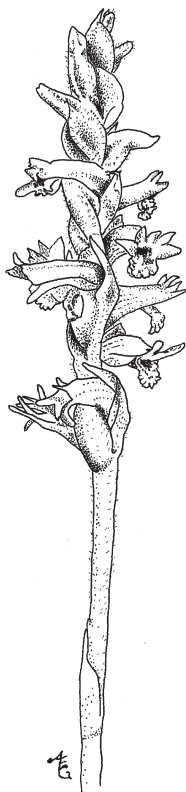


inflorescence with up  
to 40 white flowers,  
spirally arranged

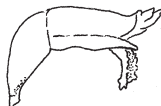


A slender, erect,  
terrestrial orchid which  
reaches ~50 cm in bloom

flowers tubular  
with wide-  
spreading  
lateral sepals,  
linear petals,  
and a 6-8 mm  
long pleated lip



5 mm



5-10 grass-like leaves, up to 18  
cm long and 1.5 cm wide that grow  
basally on stem

### *Orchidaceae (Orchid Family)*

**Phenology:** flowering July and August, fruits mature 3-4 weeks after flowers form, usually in August.

**Management Responsibility:** TNC, USFS (Coronado NF), private.

**Similar Species:** only white tubular-flowered orchid in mid-elevation cienegas; other *Spiranthes* in Arizona occur at higher elevations (7,000-9,500 ft).

**Notes:** TNC is conducting long-term monitoring on one population; numbers fluctuate between years with greater numbers following above-average winter precipitation. Orchid populations also appear to thrive with properly managed livestock grazing and may increase in response to prescribed burning.

**References:** AGFD, 1998kk. Fishbein et al, 1995. McClaran and Sundt, 1992. Sheviak, 1990.



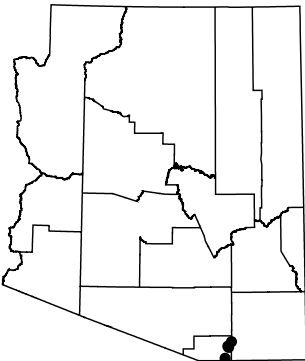
Peter Warren/TNC

*Spiranthes delitescens*

**Habitat:** cienega wetlands, orchids intermixed with tall grasses and sedges; 4,000-5,000 ft (1220-1525 m) elevation.



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**Range:** only four known populations, all in southeastern Arizona (one in Cochise and three in Santa Cruz counties); additional survey work needed in Sonora, Mexico.