

Princes Pine/Pipsissewa

Chimaphila-umbellata

"Pipsissewa" is a Cree name meaning "It-breaks-into-small-pieces".

Chimaphila umbellata, or prince's pine, is a small perennial flowering plant found in dry woodlands. It is native throughout the cool temperate Northern Hemisphere.

Prince's pine is mixotrophic. It has a friendly relationship with the fungus in the



ground. Like many plants, through photosynthesis, Prince's pine produces sugars (its food). It shares those sugars with fungi. The fungi, in return, offer up access to nutrients from the soil. The fungi in the soil also connect to another plant (other than the Prince's pine). Through this *threesome*, the Prince's pine can get sugars from this other plant. Neighbours helping neighbours in times of need.... all through a fungi trade route.

(That's Mixotrophic)

Note: Princes Pine is found in the Morrell Nature Sanctuary, it can be confused with

the invasive Daphne Laural. The difference is in the leaves of the Princes Pine. Princes Pine has serrated leaves, while Daphane Laural are smooth edged.

Looking at the top of the flower.



Looking at the underside of the flower.

