

Helleborine (*Epipactis helleborine*)



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- Smooth-leaved orchid with parallel venation
- Habitats it invades:
 - Forests
- Status
 - Wisconsin: Restricted
 - Not regulated in neighboring states





Helleborine (*Epipactis helleborine*)

Leaves alternate, simple

- 1.5-6" long, broadly oval-shaped
- Leaf margins are smooth, leaves are hairless
- Leaf veins are parallel





Helleborine (*Epipactis helleborine*)

Flower/fruit

- Flowers are greenish to white to reddish with 3 sepals and 3 petals
- Flowers borne on tall, spindly stems; July-Aug.
- Lowest petal is bucket-like and very different from the others
- Fruit is a capsule with many tiny seeds





Helleborine look alike

Helleborine orchid (*Epipactis helleborine*) has distinct flowers, but its leaves look like those of the lady's-slippers (*Cypripedium* spp.) (N). Lady-slipper leaves are hairy. Helleborine orchid is the **only non-native orchid** in the Midwest.



MinnesotaWildflowers.info



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Helleborine orchid flowers (above) and leaves (right).



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Cypripedium candidum

Cypripedium x andrewsii

Cypripedium parviflorum var. *makasin*

Lady's-slippers leaves and flowers