

*Lilium humboldtii* Duch. subsp. *ocellatum* (Kellogg) Thorne, OCELLATED HUMBOLDT LILY, LEOPARD LILY. Perennial herb, geophytic, bulb-bearing, fibrous-rooted, 1-stemmed at base and unbranched, erect to ascending (leaning), with terminal inflorescence 120–300 cm tall; shoot with cauline leaves in 4–11 widely spaced “whorls,” glabrous; bulb scaly, rhizomelike to  $\pm$  ovoid, 33–117  $\times$  24–144 mm, often purplish, scales usually notched, the longest (= bulb). **Stems:** cylindric, to 10 mm diameter, tough, green with red-purple spots; solid with spongy white center. **Leaves:** 4–16 per pseudowhorl but alternate or opposite at the lowest and uppermost nodes, simple, sessile with broad base, without stipules; blade  $\pm$  oblanceolate to narrowly elliptic, 40–200  $\times$  15–50 mm, acute at tip,  $\pm$  entire and wavy on margins, sometimes with minute, scabrous teeth on margins below midpoint, acute at tip, with  $\pm$  parallel principal veins and a conspicuous midvein, glossy. **Inflorescence:** raceme, terminal, with pendent, long-stalked flowers, several–40-flowered, bracteate, glabrous; bractlets subtending pedicel 1–2, leaflike, ovate to broadly elliptic, < 40 mm long; pedicel at anthesis recurved becoming stiff, spreading, and increasing to 2 $\times$  (maximum 120 mm long) and curved upward beneath fruit, sometimes second bractlet not at base but instead on pedicel below midpoint. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, turban-shaped with recurved perianth segments, 70–115 mm across, not fragrant; **tepals** 6 in 2 whorls, lanceolate, 67–100  $\times$  14–24 mm, thick and green at base, entire, long-tapered and  $\pm$  inrolled at tip to form a papillate point, yellow to orange on both surfaces with reddish dots on upper surface, the dots smaller and dark red basally, becoming larger and with a light ring surrounding dark spot (ocellated), above midpoint the ocellated spots merging into each other; outer tepals typically with 2 pairs of raised ribs on upper surface near base; inner tepals with a conspicuously raised, beamlike midrib on lower surface and with adjacent veins sometimes equally conspicuous; **stamens** 6, free, exerted; filaments tapered to tip, 37–49 mm long, ellipsoidal in  $\times$ -section at base and becoming  $\pm$  cylindric above, pale green, fleshy, erect against the ovary and then curved outward at level of the top of the ovary; anthers pendent, versatile, dithecal, in range (13–)20–32 mm long, salmon pink to brownish orange, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen reddish orange to orange-yellow fading with age; **pistil** 1, in range 43–60 mm long; ovary superior, columnar, in range 13–18  $\times$  3 mm, light green,  $\pm$  triangular or 3-lobed in  $\times$ -section, 3-chambered, each chamber with numerous ovules stacked and attached to center; style cylindric and becoming 3-ridged at tip, in range 28–40 mm long,  $\pm$  1.5 mm thick, pointed straight downward or slightly curved, 3-branched, the branches 1–3 mm long; stigmas rounded and papillate at tip, maroon-colored along outer edge of papillae. **Fruit:** capsule, loculicidal, erect, dehiscent by 3 valves, many-seeded, obovoid, 18–40  $\times$  18–33 mm, longitudinally keeled, ridges  $\pm$  rounded; seeds closely stacked with < 30 per stack. **Seed:** flattened ear-shaped or D-shaped, 8–11  $\times$  7–8 mm long, apricot-colored becoming orangey tan. Late May–late July.

Native. Perennial geophyte very distinctive in vegetative and reproductive condition, occurring occasionally growing in rich humus in shade of undisturbed southern oak woodland or near streambanks. Leaves of Humboldt lily are commonly described as whorled, with long internodes between the “whorls,” but closer examination reveals that leaves appearing in a whorl actually arise at nodes that are compressed together without internodes, and not arising as a single ring of leaf primordia. The nodding flowers of

Humboldt lily are so large and colorful that hikers regrettably often pick them and, hence, do not permit the plants to finish reproduction and set fruits, but deer are also responsible for eating the growing tip of the inflorescence. Flowers of *Lilium humboldtii* subsp. *ocellatum* in range are regularly visited by hummingbirds and swallowtail butterflies (*Papilio*).

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