

*Alophia drummondii*

[Synonyms : *Alophia drummondiana*, *Cypella drummondii*, *Eustylis punctata*, *Eustylis purpurea*, *Herbertia drummondii*, *Nemastylis purpurea*, *Tigridia buccifera*, *Tigridia purpurea*]

**PINEWOODS LILY** is a bulbous perennial. Native to North America it has iris-like light to deep purple flowers with brown mottling towards the centre.

It is also known as Blue tigridia, Pine lily, and Propeller flower.

One flower blooms for a few hours in the morning each day.

*Drummondii* can commemorate one or more, including Dr James Drummond and Thomas Drummond.

The most likely candidate appears to be in this case the Scottish naturalist (primarily plants and birds) and explorer, one of the Drummond brothers, Thomas (1793-1835), who collected plants in North America, particularly Canada and Texas. In 1825 he joined the English explorer, Sir John Franklin's (1786-1847) two year second Arctic expedition as Assistant Naturalist and when the party split at Hudson's Bay Drummond collected natural history specimens towards the Canadian Rocky Mountains while Franklin mapped part of the Arctic Ocean coastline. After a 200 mile walk on snow-shoes for Drummond, the group re-united, but not before he had bumped into a Scottish acquaintance, David Douglas who was collecting plants in Columbia. Drummond returned to Europe and became first Curator of the Belfast Botanic Garden for three years to 1831. He then sailed back to North America and explored parts of the eastern United States before turning to more natural history collection in Texas in 1833, including the uninhabited Galveston Island in the Gulf of Mexico where he wintered and is said to have recovered from cholera but nearly starved to death. The following year he decided to arrange for his family to join him in Texas from Scotland and that he would then explore the State south towards Mexico. But his plans were thwarted when he died (nobody knows quite how) during his journey home to Scotland via Florida. Many plants bear his name in both their botanical and common names (this is one of those he discovered) and, like his naturalist brother James who went to Australia, he too had a mountain named after him – Mount Drummond and the Drummond Icefield in Alberta in Canada. One of his publications was that on mosses in Canada and Scotland, published during his Belfast Curatorship. It earned him the name 'Great Scottish Muscologist'.