

ATLANTIC
COASTALPLAIN
FLORA

Thread-leaved Sundew

Drosera filiformis



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Species Description

Thread-leaved Sundew is a carnivorous plant with long vertical leaves (11 cm tall) that are covered with reddish-purple sticky glands. It has a long flowering stem (up to 22 cm), with 6-15 flowers that are violet with yellow centers. The flowers are 1 cm in diameter.



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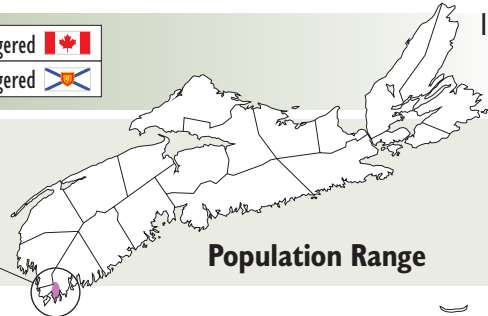
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STATUS

Endangered Endangered 

115

Occurs in five bogs at the southwestern tip of Nova Scotia - the only place it exists in Canada!



Population Range

Habitat

Thread-leaved Sundew occurs in raised bogs, which are nutrient-poor wetlands that are made of deep deposits of partially decayed plant matter that have accumulated over thousands of years. They are found in the low peaty hollows, which are interspersed with cone shaped mounds of earth.



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Thread-leaved Sundew occurs in a type of wetland known as a bog. Look for its flowers between mid-July and August. It is associated with Clumped Deer-Grass (*Scirpus caespitosus*).

Interesting Points

- Has adapted to its nutrient-poor environment by becoming carnivorous!
- It obtains extra nutrients by digesting insects that become trapped on the sticky liquid found on its leaves.
- The presence of this species resulted in the first case in NS where protection of a rare plant was chosen over development.



Trapped insects



Seed pods

Similar Species

There are two other smaller sundew species in NS, both of which are common throughout the province.

Narrow-leaved Sundew:

Typically found in bogs; leaves are club-shaped instead of long and erect.



Round-leaved Sundew:

Found in bogs, swamps, ditches and lakeshores; round leaves that are wider than they are long.



Threats to Survival

- Activities that alter water flow and drainage in wetland habitats such as peat mining, cranberry production, some forestry practices, OHV use, road building and infilling.

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How You Can Help

Keep an eye out for rare ACPF species and if observed take a picture and note the location. Submitted sighting information is maintained by the Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre and contributes to knowledge of the species. Many lakes and wetlands have not been surveyed, so your findings may be a first for that site. Refer to tip 7 of 13 for wetland specific information.

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Contacts, Information, Sighting Reports & Stewardship Opportunities

Contact: NS DNR (902) 679-6091

Info: www.speciestrisk.ca/coastalplainflora, www.speciestrisk.ca/stewardshipguide

Sighting Reports: 1-866-727-3447 or www.speciestrisk.ca/sightings

Stewardship: Nova Scotia Nature Trust: nature@nsnt.ca, MTRI: info@merseytobeatric.ca