

SWAMP CURRANT (*Ribes lacustre*)

Gooseberry Family (Grossulariaceae)

Plant Species of Concern

State Rank: S1 (critically imperiled), Global Rank: G5 (secure)

SIGNIFICANCE

The swamp currant has been given a proposed status of Endangered on the Plants of Special Concern in Pennsylvania list by the Pennsylvania Biological Survey and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. It is currently known to PNDI from a single population in the state, although there are old historical records from a few scattered locations in the northern and mountain counties.

DESCRIPTION

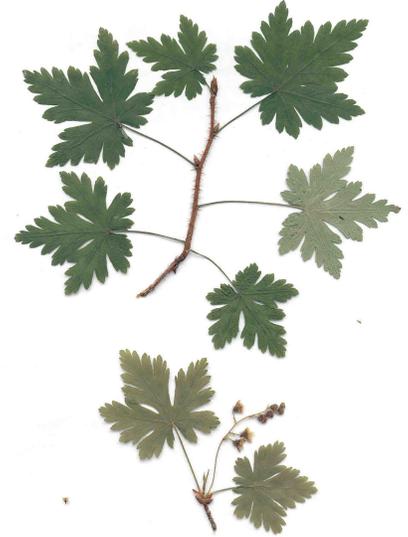
The swamp currant is a low sprawling shrub with bristly/prickly stems. The leaves are alternately arranged, simple, deciduous, and have three to five deep lobes that give them a maple-like shape. The tiny reddish flowers (a few millimeters in length) are grouped in elongate clusters and appear in May. The fruit is a dark purple or black berry with bristly/sticky hairs.

HABITAT

The species grows in damp soil on rocky slopes and talus areas, moist to seepy rock outcrops and cliffs, and in cool woods and swamps.

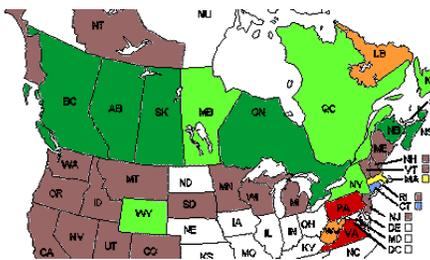
RANGE

The swamp currant is widely distributed in the more northern and cooler portions of North America. Its historical range in Pennsylvania is in the northern and mountain counties.



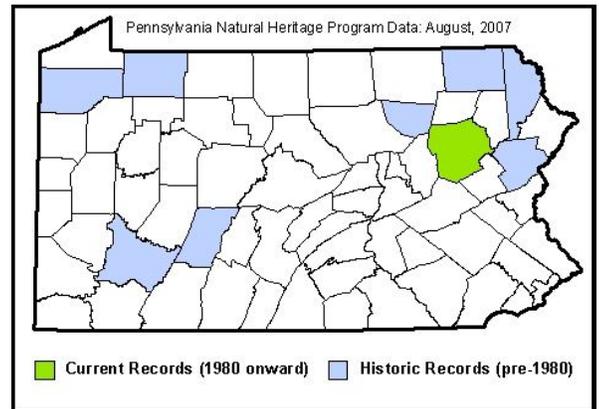
North American State/Province Conservation Status

Map by NatureServe (2007)



State/Province Status Ranks

	SX – presumed extirpated
	SH – possibly extirpated
	S1 – critically imperiled
	S2 – imperiled
	S3 – vulnerable
	S4 – apparently secure
	S5 – secure
	Not ranked/under review



REFERENCES

- NatureServe. 2007. NatureServe Explorer: An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. Version 6.2. NatureServe, Arlington, Virginia. Available <http://www.natureserve.org/explorer>. (Accessed: August 31, 2007). Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources web site (www.dcnr.state.pa.us)
- Rhoads, A.F. and T.A. Block. 2000. The plants of Pennsylvania: an illustrated manual. University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia, PA
- Rhoads, A.F. and W.M. Klein, Jr. 1993. The vascular flora of Pennsylvania: annotated checklist and atlas. American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, PA