

Sprengel's Sedge (*Carex sprengelii*)

Description

The Sprengel's Sedge is a grass-like plant to two feet in height with linear, elongate leaves and dangling clusters of long-beaked fruits that appear in late spring. It is one of the more easily distinguished species of the large and complex genus *Carex*.

Distribution & Habitat

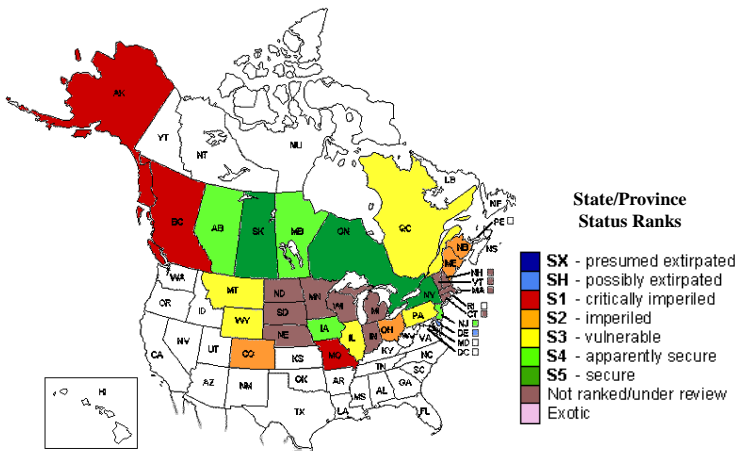
Sprengel's Sedge is widely distributed in the more northern and cooler portions of North America. It is known historically from the eastern and central counties in Pennsylvania. The species grows in moist soil on bottomlands and stream banks and also on cliffs and rocky slopes.



Photo source: John Kunsman, PNHP

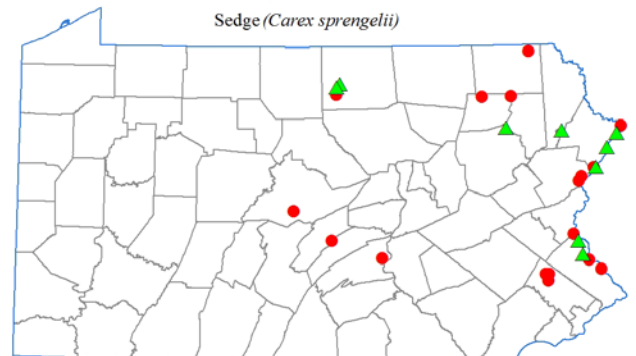
North American State/Province Conservation Status

Map by NatureServe 2014



Pennsylvania Distribution

Sedge (*Carex sprengelii*)



▲ records since 1980 ● records pre-1980
Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program Data 3-2014

State Status & Conservation

The Sprengel's Sedge has been given a status of Rare on the Plants of Special Concern in Pennsylvania list by the Pennsylvania Biological Survey and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, based on the relatively few historical and recent records that have been documented in the state. More field work is necessary to determine if the species is of conservation concern.

NatureServe conservation status ranks

G5 – Globally Secure; **S3** – Vulnerable in Pennsylvania

References

- NatureServe. 2014. NatureServe Explorer: An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. Version 7.1. NatureServe, Arlington, Virginia. Available at <http://www.natureserve.org/explorer>
- Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program. 2014.
- Rhoads, A.F. and W.M. Klein, Jr. 1993. The Vascular Flora of Pennsylvania. American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Rhoads, A.F. and T.A. Block.
- 2007. The Plants of Pennsylvania: An Illustrated Manual. 2nd edition. University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program