

Grooved Yellow Flax (*Linum sulcatum*)

Plant Species of Concern

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

Identification

Grooved yellow flax is an erect annual herb that grows up to 2½ feet (75 cm) tall. The common name refers to its grooved stems which are purplish near the base. The leaves grow alternately along the stem. They are linear to oblong, have smooth margins, and attach directly to the stem without a petiole. There are two distinctive blackish glands on the stem near the base of each leaf. The flowers are yellow, have 5 smooth petals, and are roughly ½ inch (1-2 cm) wide. They are held in loose clusters near the top of the stem and bloom from May to September.

Habitat

Grooved yellow flax occurs in the U. S. from New Hampshire and Vermont south to Florida and west to North Dakota through Texas. In Pennsylvania, it can be found growing in scattered sites on sandy barrens.



photo source: Robert W. Freckmann Herbarium, UWSP
Merel L. Black

North American State/Province Conservation Status

Map by NatureServe (2007)

