

Thick-leaved Meadow-rue (*Thalictrum coriaceum*)

Pennsylvania Endangered

State Rank: S2 (imperiled), Global Rank: G4 (apparently secure)

What it looks like:

Thick-leaved meadow rue, a member of the buttercup family (Ranunculaceae), grows up to one meter (three feet) tall from its low woody base, or caudex. Its roots are bright yellow. Individual plants bear only male or female flowers.

Flowers have no petals, but deciduous sepals are white to purple in color, and the filaments and stigma are maroon. Flowering occurs in late May through June.

Leaves are compound, with up to four leaflets, which are kidney-shaped to round, with broad lobes or teeth along their outer margins.



USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database - from *Illustrated flora of the northern states and Canada*. (Britton, N.L., and A. Brown 1913.) Vol. 2: 119.

Where it is found:

Thick-leaved meadow rue grows in rocky, open wooded habitats and areas with rich, moist soil in mountain or Piedmont terrain. Its natural range is from

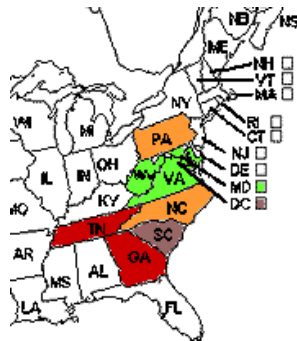
Pennsylvania south to Tennessee and Georgia; while it is present in Kentucky, it may be exotic in that state.

Why it is rare:

This species is rare through much of its range, and because it requires particularly pristine forest habitat, it is very sensitive to human disturbance.

North American State/Province Conservation Status

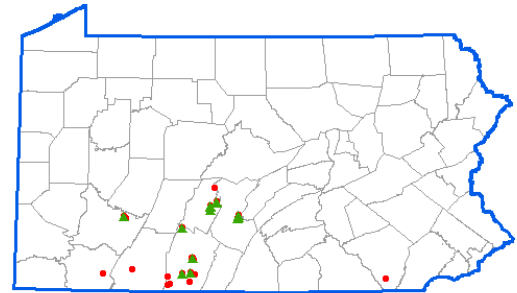
Map by NatureServe (August 2007)



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
	Exotic

Pennsylvania Distribution by County



▲ current data • records > 30 years old (1975)
Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program data 2005

Conservation considerations:

Recovery of thick-leaved meadow rue in Pennsylvania will require preservation and protection of unaltered woodlands within the plant's historical range. Removal or management of invasive competitor species and reduction of deer populations to control overgrazing will also benefit this species.

References

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