

Long-lobed Arrowhead

Sagittaria calycina var. *spongiosa*

Description

Long-lobed Arrowhead is a small annual herb growing to about 1 foot (30 cm) in height. The leaves have a relatively broad spongy leaf stalk that expands slightly at the tip into a spatula-like or elliptic blade. The flowers, appearing from July to September, have 3 white petals that are only a few millimeters in length. The flowers occur singly or up to a few in a whorl, with the stalks somewhat broad and spongy like the leaf stalks. The sepals of each flower are persistent and enclose the fruiting head, which consists of many small one-seeded, flattened fruits that are up to 2 millimeters in length.



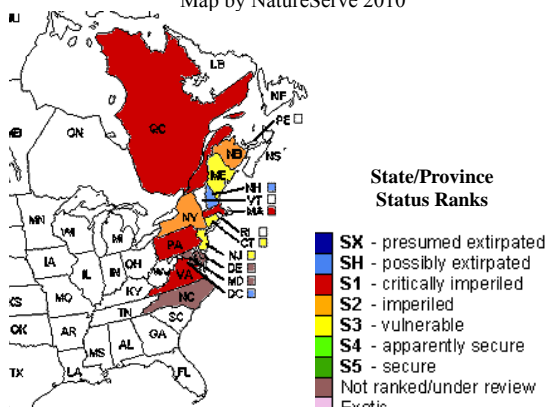
Photo source: Andrew Strassman (PNHP)

Distribution & Habitat

Long-lobed Arrowhead has a range along the Atlantic coast from maritime Canada south into North Carolina. In Pennsylvania, this species has been documented in the southeastern counties, and along Lake Erie in Erie County. Long-lobed Arrowhead grows in intertidal marshes, mudflats, and shorelines. The intertidal populations are subjected to daily cycles of exposure and inundation.

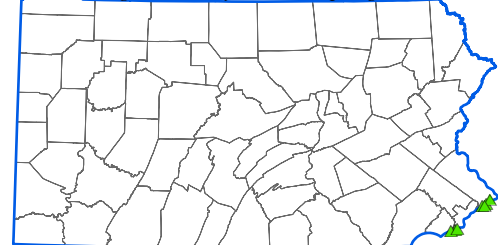
North American State/Province Conservation Status

Map by NatureServe 2010



Pennsylvania Distribution

Sagittaria calycina var. *spongiosa*



▲ records since 1980 ● records pre-1980
Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program Data 3-2011

State Status & Conservation

The PA Biological Survey (PABS) has assigned Long-lobed Arrowhead a rarity status of Endangered, based on the limited number of populations that have been confirmed, the small population sizes, the limited state range, and the specialized habitat. The known populations have threats from exotic species, dredging and filling, and water pollution.

NatureServe conservation status ranks

G5T4 — Globally Secure; **S1** — Critically Imperiled in Pennsylvania

References

- NatureServe. 2011. 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. 2011.
- 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