

Mitchell's sedge (*Carex mitchelliana*)

Pennsylvania Endangered Plant Species

State Rank: S1 (critically imperiled) Global Rank: G4 (apparently secure)

What it looks like:

Mitchell's sedge (*Carex mitchelliana*) is a grass-like perennial herb with a triangular stem

Leaves are long and slender, usually one to two decimeters (six inches to one foot) long by 2.5 to five millimeters (0.1 to 0.2 inch).

Flowers are very small, arranged in three or more unisexual spikes: the male upright and smaller, located at the tip of the stem; the female spikes lower, larger, and drooping.



Research Associates.
www.biologicalresearch.com/plants.

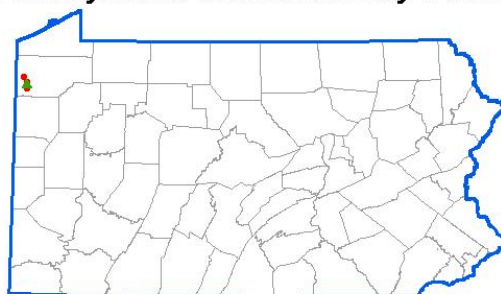
Where it is found:

Mitchell's sedge grows in swampy woods and wet meadows from New York and Massachusetts south to Mississippi and Florida.

Why it is rare:

Mitchell's sedge occurs in many populations, but is rare and scattered throughout its range.

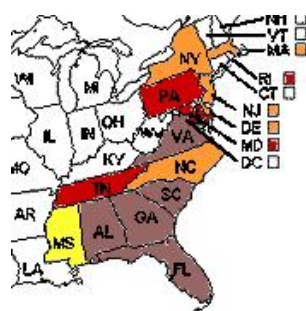
Pennsylvania Distribution by County



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

North American State/Province Conservation Status

Map by NatureServe



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

Conservation considerations:

Mitchell's sedge can recover in Pennsylvania if its wetland habitats are preserved and protected from draining or other hydrological alterations. Control of invasive exotic species such as imported varieties of the common reed (*Phragmites australis*) will also be necessary.



Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program



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References

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