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## Maine Natural Areas Program

### Cardamine longii Fern.

#### Long's Bitter-cress

- State Rank: S2
- Global Rank: G3
- State Status: Threatened

**Habitat:** Tidal estuary. [Tidal wetland (non-forested, wetland)]

**Range:** Local, along the coastal plain, from Maine to Virginia.



**Aids to Identification:** Saltmarsh bitter-cress is a weak-stemmed herb growing from fibrous roots to a height of 10-30 cm. All the leaves grow on leaf-stalks, the flowers have no petals, and the fruits are divergent. This species is easily distinguished from the similar Alpine bitter-cress (*C. bellidifolia*) by the difference in habitat.

**Ecological characteristics:** In Maine this species typically grows on sandy muck and cobbles.

**Phenology:** Flowers June - September.

**Family:** Brassicaceae






**Synonyms:** None noted.

**Known Distribution in Maine:** This rare plant has been documented from a total of 8 towns in the following counties: Hancock, Lincoln, Sagadahoc.

**Reason(s) for rarity:** Scarce throughout its range.

**Conservation considerations:** Prevent degradation of marsh and estuary habitat from adjacent land uses.



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