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# Maine Natural Areas Program

## Galium labradoricum (Wieg.) Wieg.

### Bog Bedstraw

- State Rank: S2
- Global Rank: G5
- State Status: Special Concern

**Habitat:** Bogs, mossy thickets, woods. [Conifer forest (forest, upland)]

**Range:** Newfoundland to Wisconsin, Connecticut, western Massachusetts, and New York.

**Aids to Identification:** Bedstraws are slender herbs with whorled leaves, 3- or 4-petaled flowers, and inferior ovaries. They occur in a wide variety of mesic to hydric communities. *G. labradoricum*, and its close relative, *G. obtusum* are distinguished from other bedstraws by the combination of single-nerved leaves, occurring 4 at each node, 4-petaled flowers, and a dense ring of pubescence on the stem underneath the leaves. *G. obtusum* has ascending to spreading larger leaves and tuberculate fruits, while *G. labradoricum* has recurved to deflexed smaller leaves and smooth fruits.



**Ecological characteristics:**  
Found locally in peatlands, sedge meadows, Northern White Cedar Swamps, and mossy woods.

**Phenology:** Flowers June - August.

**Family:** Rubiaceae

**Synonyms:** *Galium tinctorium* (L.) Scop. var. *labradoricum* Wieg.

**Known Distribution in Maine:** This rare plant has been documented from a total of 21 town(s) in the following county(ies): Aroostook, Hancock, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Somerset, Waldo, Washington.

**Dates of documented observations are:**  
1934, 1939, 1940, 1964, 1996, 1997, 2000, 2001 (2)

**Reason(s) for rarity:**  
Unknown.

**Conservation considerations:** Unknown





Credits







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