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Animals & Plants

Forest

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Planning

Licensing & Regulations

Bureaus & Programs

[DACF Home](#) → [Bureaus & Programs](#) → [Maine Natural Areas Program](#) → [Communities, Plants, and Animals](#) → [Rare Plants](#) → [Sagittaria rigida](#)

About MNAP
Focus Areas
Communities, Plants and Animals
Natural Communities and Ecosystems
Rare Plants
Invasive Plants
Ecological Inventory and Monitoring
Rare Animals
State and Global Rarity Ranks
Survey Forms
Maps, Data, and Technical Assistance
Ecological Reserves

Maine Natural Areas Program

Sagittaria rigida Pursh

Stiff Arrowhead

- [State Rank](#): S2
- [Global Rank](#): G5
- [State Status](#): Special Concern

Habitat: Calcareous or brackish mud or water. [Tidal wetland (non-forested, wetland)]

Range: Maine and Quebec to Minnesota, south to Virginia, Tennessee, Missouri, and Nebraska.

Aids to Identification: Arrowheads are aquatic plants with 3-petalled white flowers and numerous stamens and carpels. The septate nodulose roots are distinctive. The identification of stiff arrowhead is complicated by the fact that its form is highly variable, depending upon the habitat in which it is growing. It can be distinguished from other arrow-head species by its leaves, which usually lack basal lobes, and by its sessile (stalkless) fruits and pistillate white flowers.



Ecological characteristics: In Maine, this species is typically found in fresh to brackish tidal mud flats.



Phenology: Flowers
July - September.

Family:
Alismataceae

Synonyms: None noted.

Known Distribution in Maine: This rare plant has been documented from a total of 13 town(s) in the following county(ies): Kennebec, Lincoln, Penobscot, Sagadahoc, York.



Reason(s) for rarity: At northern limit of range.

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



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