

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:

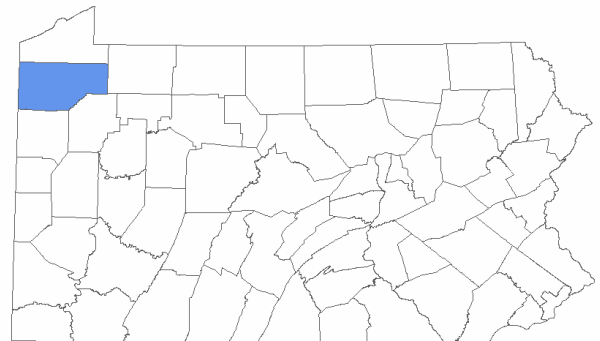
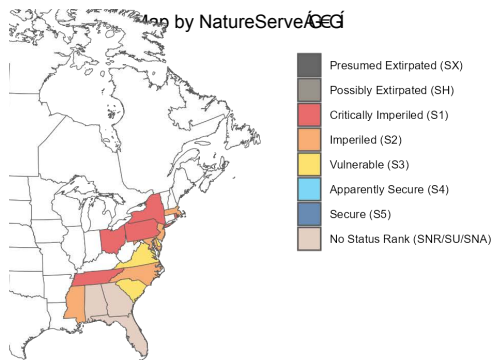
Mitchell's sedge grows in swampy woods and wet meadows from New York and Massachusetts south to Mississippi and Florida.

Mitchell's Sedge (*Carex mitchelliana*)

Why it is rare:

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

North American State/Province Conservation Status



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.

References

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- Harrison, Jason W. 2001. Ecologically significant areas in Wicomico County: Rare plant sites newly identified or updated in 2000. Maryland Dept. of Nat. Res., Annapolis, Maryland. 84.
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Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program