



Maine Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Program

Lomatogonium rotatum (L.) Fries ex Fern.

Marsh Felwort

Habitat: Turfy or sandy seashores. [Rocky coastal (non-forested, upland)]

Range: Quebec, Greenland and Labrador to Alaska, south in the Rocky Mountains to Colorado. Also in Europe and Asia.

Phenology: Flowers mid to late summer (July - September).

Family: Gentianaceae



Illustration from Britton & Brown's Illustrated Flora of the Northern United States and Canada, 2nd ed.

Aids to Identification: Marsh felwort grows about 10-20 cm tall, with stiffly ascending branches, and has fleshy narrow leaves, about 2-3 cm long, borne opposite each other on the stem. Its 4-5 petalled blue flowers are up to 3 cm in diameter. Its flowers are unusual in that the stigmas are not borne on a style, but rather from 3 lines on the ovary.

Ecological characteristics: Prefers a wet habitat, and, in Maine, is restricted to a few localities along the eastern coast. Like *Iris setosa* var. *canadensis* and *Sedum rosea*, this species is an element of the distinctive flora of the eastern Maine coast.

Synonyms: Former names include *Pleurogyne rotata* (L.) Griseb

Rarity of *Lomatogonium rotatum*

State Rank:	S1	Critically imperiled in Maine because of extreme rarity (five or fewer occurrences or very few remaining individuals or acres) or because some aspect of its biology makes it especially vulnerable to extirpation in Maine.
New England Rank:	Division 2	Regionally rare plant: Fewer than 20 current (seen since 1970) occurrences within New England.
Global Rank:	G5	Demonstrably widespread, abundant, and secure globally.

Status of *Lomatogonium rotatum*

Federal Status:	None	No Federal Status.
State Status:	Threatened	Rare and, with further decline, could become endangered; or federally listed as Threatened. Listing criteria met: Special habitat, At edge of range, Vulnerable to human activity



- ▲ Historical (before 1982)
● Recent (1982 - present)

Known Distribution in Maine:

This rare plant has been documented from a total of 4 town(s) in the following county(ies): Hancock, Washington.

Dates of documented observations are: 1929, 1981, 1983 (6), 1993, 1998, 2000, 2001 (2)

Reason(s) for rarity:

Naturally restricted habitat.

Conservation considerations:

Small populations that do not always occur in exactly the same location. Heavy hiker or tourist use could threaten certain populations.

The information in this fact sheet was downloaded from the Natural Areas Program's Biological and Conservation Database on 13 MAY 2004. We are grateful to our Botanical Advisory Group for additional information on particular species, and in particular, to Arthur Haines for his assistance with identifying characteristics and taxonomic questions. Nomenclature follows Haines and Vining's *Flora of Maine* (V.F. Thomas Press, 1998); where older works refer to a plant by another name, it is given under "Synonyms". The Natural Areas Program, within the Department of Conservation, maintains the most comprehensive source of information on Maine's rare or endangered plants and rare or exemplary natural communities, and is a member of the Association for Biodiversity Information.

If you know of locations for this plant or would like more information on this species,
please contact the Natural Areas Program
State House Station 93, Augusta, Maine 04333; telephone (207) 287-8044.

