



Maine Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Program

Hieracium venosum L.

Rattlesnake Hawkweed

- Habitat:** Dry open pine, or oak woods and barrens, usually in grassy openings. [Dry barrens (partly forested, upland)]
- Range:** Southern Maine to southern Ontario, south to Delaware and upland to Georgia and Tennessee.
- Phenology:** Flowers June - July.
- Family:** Asteraceae



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

Aids to Identification: Rattlesnake hawkweed has 1 or a few smooth stems, growing to a height of 20-80 cm. The stems have no leaves, or sometimes they may have 1-3 small leaves. There is a rosette of basal leaves, which are 3-16 cm long, with bristles along the edges and near their base and veined with purple. The yellow flowers are numerous, with 15-40 per head.

Ecological characteristics: In Maine this species is known to occur in pitch pine - scrub oak barrens.

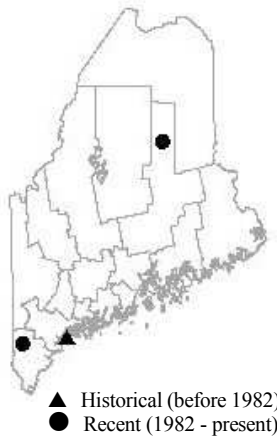
Synonyms: Formerly known as *H. venosum* var. *nudicaule* (Michx.) Farw.

Rarity of *Hieracium venosum*

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|--|
| State Rank: | S1 | Critically imperiled in Maine because of extreme rarity or vulnerability to extirpation. |
| New England Rank: | None | |
| Global Rank: | G5T4Q | Species demonstrably widespread, abundant, and secure globally. |

Status of *Hieracium venosum*

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|------------------------|------------|---|
| Federal Status: | None | No Federal Status. |
| State Status: | Endangered | Rare and in danger of being lost from the state in the foreseeable future; or federally listed as Endangered. Listing criteria met: |



Known Distribution in Maine:

This rare plant has been documented from a total of 3 town(s) in the following county(ies): Cumberland, Penobscot, York.

Dates of documented observations are: 1909, 1991, 1996, 2000

Reason(s) for rarity:

At northern limit of range.

Conservation considerations:

Heavy all-terrain vehicle use of the sandy habitats where this occurs would be detrimental to the plant 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.

