



Maine Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Program

Calystegia spithamea (L.) Pursh

Upright Bindweed

Habitat: Sandy or rocky open soil, thin woods. [Dry barrens (partly forested, upland); Old field/roadside (non-forested, wetland or upland)]

Range: Quebec and Maine to Minnesota, south to Virginia and Missouri, and in the mountains of Georgia.

Phenology: Flowers June - August.

Family: Convolvulaceae

Aids to Identification: The stem of this perennial bindweed is weakly erect, with alternately arranged oblong leaves on short leaf-stalks. The large white or pink flowers are funnel shaped, on long flower stalks.

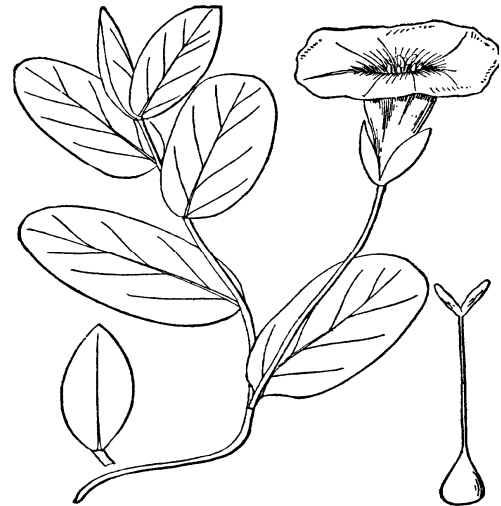


Illustration from Britton & Brown's Illustrated Flora of the Northern United States and Canada, 2nd ed.

Ecological characteristics: In Maine this species is known to occur in sandplain grasslands and sandy floodplains. It sometimes occurs in hayfields and on roadsides, but is not closely related to the non-native and aggressive common bindweed (*C. sepium*).

Synonyms: Formerly known as *Convolvulus spithameus* L. Maine populations are represented by *Calystegia spithamea* ssp. *spithamea*.

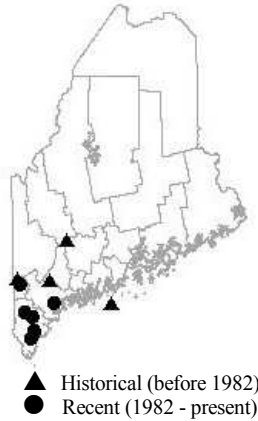
Rarity of *Calystegia spithamea*

State Rank:	S2	Imperiled in Maine because of rarity or vulnerability to further decline.
New England Rank:	Division 2	Regionally rare plant: Fewer than 20 current (seen since 1970) occurrences within New England.
Global Rank:	G4G5	Species and subspecies widespread, abundant, and apparently secure globally but possibly with cause for long-term concern.

Status of *Calystegia spithamea*

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: At edge of range, Vulnerable to human activity.

Known Distribution in Maine:



This rare plant has been documented from a total of 10 town(s) in the following county(ies): Androscoggin, Cumberland, Lincoln, Oxford, York.

Dates of documented observations are: 1885, 1985, 1987, 1992, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2000, 2002 (2)

Reason(s) for rarity:

At northern limit of range.

Conservation considerations:

Some known populations have succumbed to conversion of their habitat to residential or commercial use; others are vulnerable.

Plant rarity and status is based on 2008 data and the rest of the information in this fact sheet was downloaded from the Natural Areas Program's Biological and Conservation Database on 05 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.

