



***Salicornia bigelovii* Torr.**

Dwarf Glasswort

- Habitat:** Saltmarshes [Tidal wetland (non-forested, wetland)]
- Range:** Nova Scotia south along coast to Texas and Mexico. Also in California.
- Phenology:** Flowering late summer and early fall.
- Family:** Amaranthaceae (formerly in Chenopodiaceae)

Aids to Identification: Glassworts are succulent, fleshy plants with opposite leaves and jointed stems that are found in saline environments. The leaves are very small and scale-like. The flowers are tiny and are sunken into the stem. Dwarf glasswort has ascending stems and pointed scales. The inflorescence is wider than the stem.

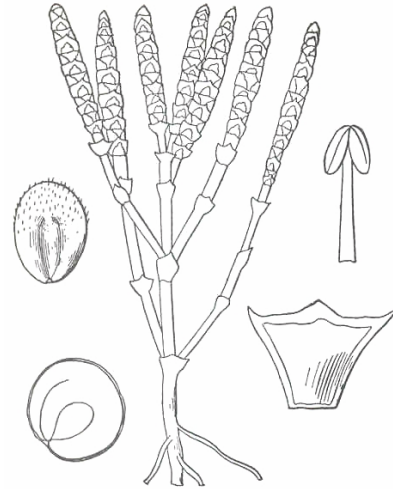


Illustration from Britton & Brown's
Illustrated Flora of the Northern United
States and Canada, 2nd ed.

Ecological characteristics: Found growing in coastal saltmarshes.

Synonyms: Formerly known as *Salicornia mucronata* Bigelow.

Rarity of *Salicornia bigelovii*

- State Rank:** S1 Critically imperiled in Maine because of extreme rarity or vulnerability to extirpation.
- New England Rank:** None
- Global Rank:** G5Q Species is widespread, abundant, and apparently secure globally (questionable taxonomy).

Status of *Salicornia bigelovii*

- Federal Status:** None No Federal Status.
- State Status:** Special Concern
- Proposed State Status:** Special Concern Rare in Maine based on available information, but not sufficiently rare to be considered Threatened or Endangered.



Know Distribution in Maine:

This rare plant has been documented from a total of 6 towns in the following counties: Cumberland, York.

Dates of documented observations are: 1905, 1941, 1981, 2000 (3), 2001 (2)

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

Reasons for rarity:

At northern edge of range, scarcity of habitat.

Conservation considerations:

Hydrologic alteration of saltmarshes could pose threat to populations.

The information in this fact sheet was downloaded from the Natural Areas Program's Biodiversity Tracking System on 20 Apr 2004. Nomenclature follows Haines and Vining's *Flora of Maine* (V.F. Thomas Press, 1998) and *Flora Novae Angliae* Tracheophyte Checklist (2004) available at: http://arthur_haines.tripod.com/checklist.htm. 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, threatened, and endangered plants and natural communities, and is a member of the Association of 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

