



Maine Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Program

Calamagrostis stricta (Timm) Koel. *ssp stricta*

Neglected Reed-grass

Habitat: Swales and shores, usually circumneutral.
[Non-tidal rivershore (non-forested,
seasonally wet)]

Range: Circumboreal, south to Newfoundland,
northern Maine, Michigan, Wisconsin,
Colorado, and California.

Phenology: Fruits late June - August.

Family: Poaceae

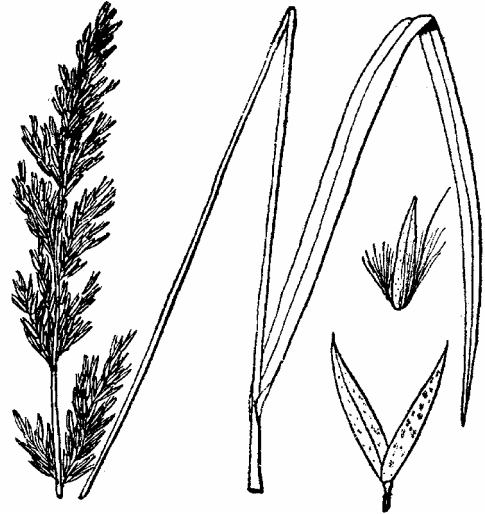


Illustration from Britton & Brown's Illustrated Flora of the Northern United States and Canada, 2nd ed.

Aids to Identification: Identification of species of the genus *Calamagrostis* is usually difficult and dependent upon rather technical characters. They are all perennial grasses with long, narrow leaves, and 1-flowered spikelets with a tuft of hairs at the base of the lemma. This particular species is very similar to Northern New England reed-grass (*C. stricta* ssp. *inexpansa*). Both species grow to 30-100 cm in height, with spike-like flower clusters, and spikelets 3-5 mm long. Subspecies *stricta* is characterized by smooth leaves, and ligules 1-3 mm long with an entire apex.

Ecological characteristics: Known to occur in Maine along sand, cobble, and mud pondshores and rivershores.

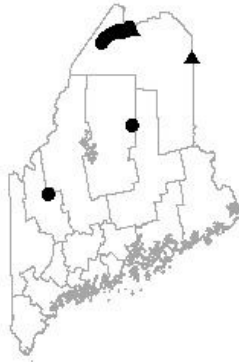
Synonyms: Formerly known as *Calamagrostis neglecta*. Subspecies not delimited by Gleason and Cronquist (Second ed., 1991).

Rarity of *Calamagrostis stricta* ssp *stricta*

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:	G5T5	Species and subspecies both demonstrably widespread, abundant, and secure globally.

Status of *Calamagrostis stricta* ssp *stricta*

Federal Status:	None	No Federal Status.
State Status:	Threatened	
Proposed 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 7 town(s) in the following county(ies): Aroostook, Franklin, Piscataquis.

Dates of documented observations are: 1893, 1981, 1985, 1989, 1991 (3), 1995, 1999, 2001 (9)

Reason(s) for rarity:

At southern limit of range, and habitat naturally rare.

Conservation considerations:

Populations along rivershores could be harmed if all-terrain vehicle use increases.

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.

