

Golden Crest

Lophiola aurea

STATUS

Threatened 

Threatened 

71



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Species Description

Golden Crest is a perennial plant that reaches heights of 50 cm. Small yellow flowers occur at the top of flowering stalks that are covered in white woolly hairs. Its leaves are grass-like and green with red at the base.

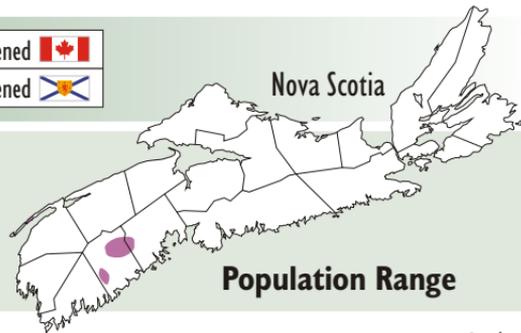


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Found in three fens and along the shorelines of six lakes with an estimated population of 5000 plants.



Habitat

Occurs on gently sloping cobble lakeshores, fens, and bay bogs (bays of lakes that become filled with peat). It grows on substrates such as sand, peat and floating peat mats.



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Golden Crest is found in wetlands and along lakeshores. Look for its flowers from August to September. It occurs with other rare species, such as Redroot.

Interesting Points

- Stands of Golden Crest on Brier Island and Digby Neck have been locally extirpated.
- Flowers in late summer and adds colour to the shoreline after most other flowers have stopped blooming.
- When not in flower, it can be distinguished from other species in the spring by the presence of its dried fruiting stalks from the previous year.



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Similar Species

Pearly Everlasting:

White woolly hairs on the stalk; white flowers with brownish centers.



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Threats to Survival

- Cottage development and its associated activities, including shoreline alteration (dock building, mowing, raking, infilling, OHV use), land clearing & road building.
- Water quality can be negatively affected by nutrient, sediment and pesticide runoff from cottages, forestry activities and agricultural operations.
- Fens may be threatened by cranberry growing operations, OHV use and peat mining.

How You Can Help

Reduce shoreline disturbances (leave a natural vegetation buffer, do not drive OHVs along shorelines). Obtain permits from NS DEL and your municipality before altering the shoreline (infilling, installing docks). Install and maintain septic systems and avoid using pesticides and fertilizers. Do not build roads, infill or drive OHVs in wetlands or along wetland margins.



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Contacts, Information, Sighting Reports & Stewardship Opportunities

Contact: NS DNR (902) 679-6091

Info: www.speciesatrisk.gc.ca and www.gov.ns.ca/natr/wildlife

Sighting Reports: 1-866-727-3447 or sightings@speciesatrisk.ca

Stewardship: Nova Scotia Nature Trust, www.nsnat.ca