



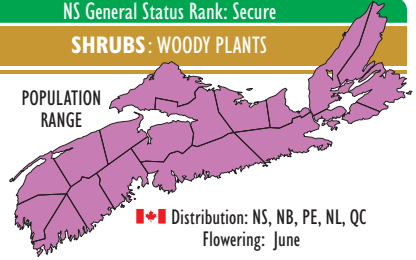
Dwarf Huckleberry

Gaylussacia bigeloviana

NS General Status Rank: Secure

SHRUBS : WOODY PLANTS

POPULATION
RANGE



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SIZE: 10-50 cm tall.

LEAVES: Inversely egg-shaped (obovate), dark green, thick, 2-4 cm long and end in a fine pointed tip. The leaf edges are smooth (entire) and small shiny resin glands dot the leaf surface. They are alternately arranged along the branches.

STEM: Smooth, dark, and branching. Young branches have many fine hairs covering their surface.

FLOWERS: White to pinkish, 6-9 mm long and bell shaped with five lobes. The flowers, which point downwards, are arranged in elongate and sometimes drooping clusters.

FRUITS: Blue to black, round, edible, berry-like drupes with soft hairs, 5-8 mm wide.

NOTES: Spreads using long horizontal roots (rhizomes) which run below ground and send up new shrubs. Also known as Bog Huckleberry (*Gaylussacia dumosa* var. *bigeloviana*)



Fruits with soft hairs

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Habitat:

Open acidic sphagnum bogs and barrens.

Interesting point: The juicy berries look like larger and darker blueberries with larger seeds but are even sweeter!

Similar species: Black Huckleberry (*Gaylussacia baccata*) is taller (50 to 200 cm), has smooth fruits and much shinier leaves with rounded ends.



Black Huckleberry

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Bell-shaped flowers

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