



## Golden Crest

*Lophiola aurea*

NS General Status Rank: At Risk

HERBS: NON-WOODY PLANTS



© MEGAN CROWLEY



Flower

© MEGAN CROWLEY



Vegetative plant

© MEGAN CROWLEY

### Similar Species:

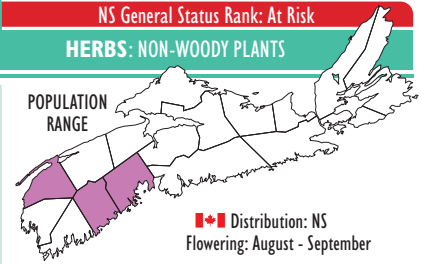
The vegetative plant can look similar to Redroot (*Lachnanthes caroliانا*, page 12) and small Blue Flag Iris (*Iris versicolor*), however both these plants have white underground stems (rhizomes) rather than red. Golden Crest leaves are a paler blue-green than Redroot and are often somewhat hairy in their lower half.



Redroot (left), Blue Flag Iris (right)



Dried flower stalks



**STATUS**

Threatened 🇨🇦

Threatened 🇳🇸

**SIZE:** 30-60 cm tall.

**LEAVES:** Long, narrow, basal leaves (grow from the base) that are blue-green with a reddish tinge at the bottom, up to 30 cm long and 2-5 mm wide.

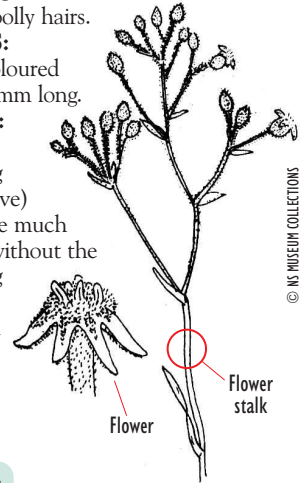
**STEM:** Flower stalk slender, covered in white woolly hairs, and higher than the leaves.

**FLOWERS:** Golden yellow and small (1 cm wide) in a cluster at the top of the flower stalk. The flower cluster is branching, 5-10 cm wide, and covered in white woolly hairs.

**FRUITS:** Straw-coloured seeds, 1 mm long.

**NOTES:**

Non-flowering (vegetative) plants are much shorter without the flowering stalk (up to 30 cm tall).



### Habitat:

Found along lakeshores and in wetlands (fens). Lakeshore habitat includes gently sloping cobble and peaty substrates and bays of lakes that become filled with peat. Also occurs on floating mats of peat.

**Interesting Point:** Can be recognized by its dried flower stalks from the previous year.



Golden Crest wetland

© MEGAN CROWLEY

© MEGAN CROWLEY