Newfoundland & Labrador Species at Risk

Status: Endangered



Fernald's Braya

(Braya fernaldii)

- The Great Northern Peninsula of Newfoundland is the only place in the world where Fernald's Braya grows.
- It is a small, perennial plant that grows to a maximum height of 8 cm.
- It has fleshy, linear to spatulate leaves and clusters of four-petaled, white to pink or purple flowers.
- It closely resembles the endangered Long's Braya (*Braya longii*).



Provincial Distribution



Habitat/Range

Fernald's Braya is endemic to the northwest coast of the Great Northern Peninsula of Newfoundland and is restricted to the unique limestone barrens ecosystem. Its range stretches from Anchor Point to the Burnt Cape Ecological Reserve, with an outlying population in Port aux Choix.

Population Trends

In 2008, approximately 3300 flowering Fernald's Braya were counted among 16 populations. This is a decline from the approximately 3400 flowering Fernald's Braya counted among 14 populations between 1998 and 2000.

Limiting Factors and Threats

Historically, populations have been disturbed by human activity associated with quarrying and road development. Currently, populations are limited by off-road vehicle activity, insect herbivory by the diamondback moth (*Plutella xylostella*), and various diseases.

Special Significance

Fernald's Braya is found nowhere else in the world. It is one of a unique set of rare species adapted to the harsh conditions of the limestone barrens.

You can help protect Fernald's braya:

- Support stewardship activities in your area.
- Stop habitat destruction, keep all-terrain vehicles and trucks on approved trails.

Department of Environment & Conservation
Wildlife Division

Endangered Species & Biodiversity

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