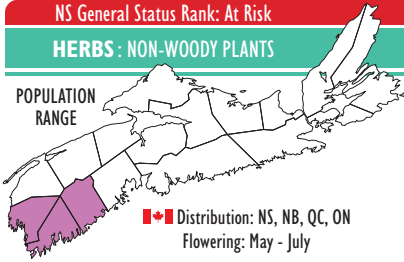


POPULATION RANGE



■ Distribution: NS, NB, QC, ON
Flowering: May - July

SIZE: 20-80 cm long.

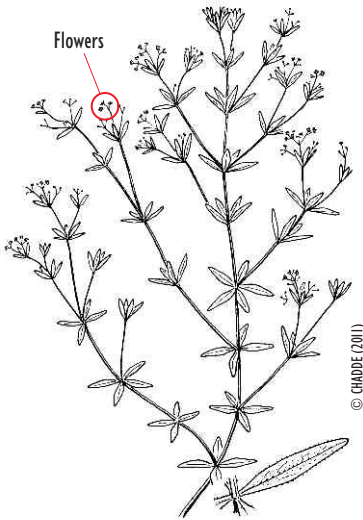
LEAVES: Long and narrow (linear to lance-shaped), 1-3 cm long and 3-5 mm wide, with a rounded tip. Circularly arranged around the stem (whorled) in groups of 4 (sometimes 5-6).

STEM: Slender, weak stem that branches and spreads. It is green, four-sided and smooth except for short bristly hairs where the leaves attach to the stem.

FLOWERS: Small, 4-petaled and white in groups of 3-5 at branch tips. The flower stalks (pedicels) are 5-12 mm long and point upwards.

FRUITS: Dark, smooth, 4-5 mm long and made up of two round parts.

NOTES: This species grows in a sprawling and weakly-erect fashion.



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Flowers

© ROBERT MOHLENBROCK

Large Marsh Bedstraw

Galium obtusum



Large Marsh Bedstraw in front of a black background

© MEGAN CROWLEY



Whorled leaves

© MEGAN CROWLEY



Fruits

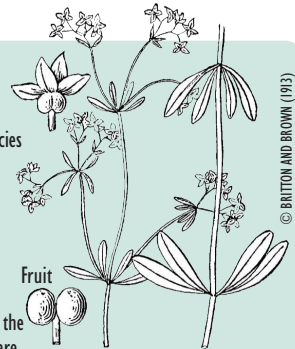
© MEGAN CROWLEY

Habitat:

Wet marshes, boggy swales, flood plains, stream banks, and wet forests. It can occur near lakeshores in these habitats.

Interesting point: There are 300 species of bedstraw and some species are capable of curdling milk to create cheese.

Similar species: Marsh Bedstraw (*Galium palustre*) leaves are circularly arranged around the stem (whorled) in groups of 2-6 (usually 4-5), with leaves 0.5-1.5 cm long. Small hairs are absent on the stem where the leaves attach. The flowers are in groups of 5 or more and the fruit is larger.



Marsh Bedstraw

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