

Other Ranks:

COSEWIC: Not listed in Canada

IUCN Red List: Not assessed by IUCN Red List

Status Discussion:

Euphorbia ipecacuanhae is Endangered in New York (Ring 2023). There are four very small existing populations of ipecac spurge in NY (16 plants total) and about 20 historical occurrences. The extant populations range from only two plants at three locations (last observed 1999, 2008, 2017) to ten plants at one location (last observed in 2000). In NY, it occurs in Nassau and Suffolk counties on Long Island and has been reported from Queens. It was historically known from Staten Island and is considered extirpated from Manhattan (NYNHP 2023, 2024).

II. Abundance and Distribution

Region	Present?	Abundance	Distribution	Time Frame	Listing status or S-Rank	SGCN?
North America	Yes	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown		
Northeastern US	Yes	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown		
New York	Yes	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	E	
Connecticut	Yes	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	SNR	
Massachusetts	No	-	-	-		
New Jersey	Yes	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	S5	
Pennsylvania	Yes	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	S1	
Vermont	No	-	-	-		
Ontario	No	-	-	-		
Quebec	No	-	-	-		

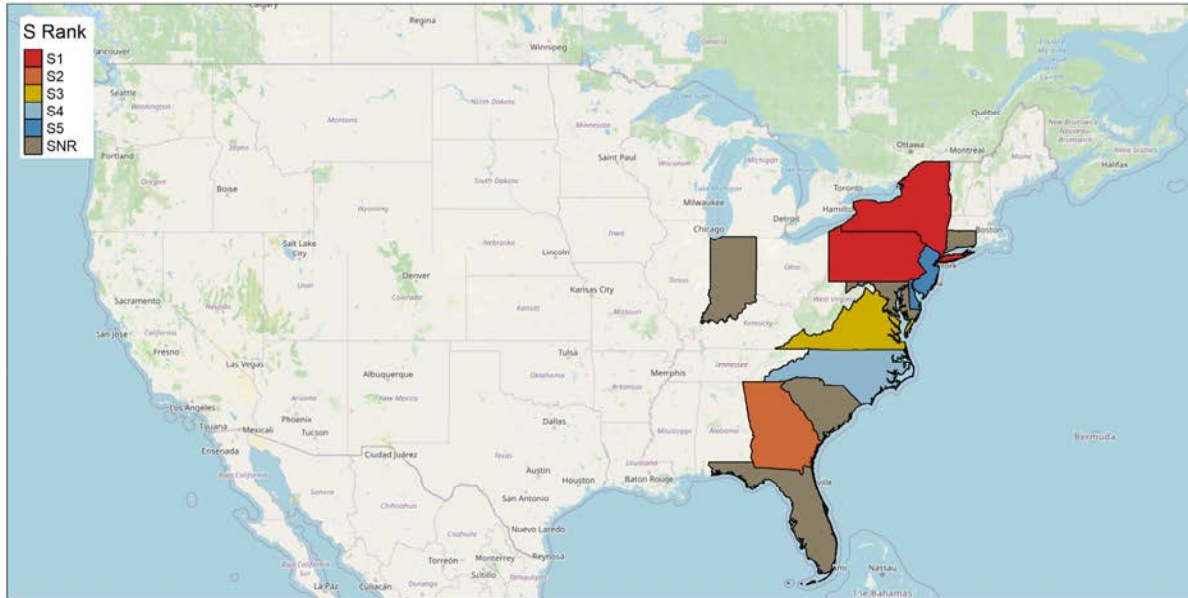


Figure 11: *Euphorbia ipecacuanhae* North American distribution.

Percent of North American Range in NY	Classification of NY Range	Distance to core population, if not in NY
1-25%	Peripheral	Unknown

III. NY Rarity and Trends

Trends Discussion

There seems to have been a substantial decline from historical records in NY. Most existing populations of ipecac spurge are very small, so future trends may also be downward. There is not enough recent information to determine short-term trends (NYNHP 2023, 2024).

Details of historic and current occurrence

Ipecac spurge is a small herb that grows on the Atlantic coastal plain from Connecticut and Long Island south to Florida. It is also disjunct in Indiana. In NY, it occurs in Nassau and Suffolk counties on Long Island and has been reported from Queens. It was historically known from Staten Island and is considered extirpated from Manhattan (NYNHP 2023, 2024).

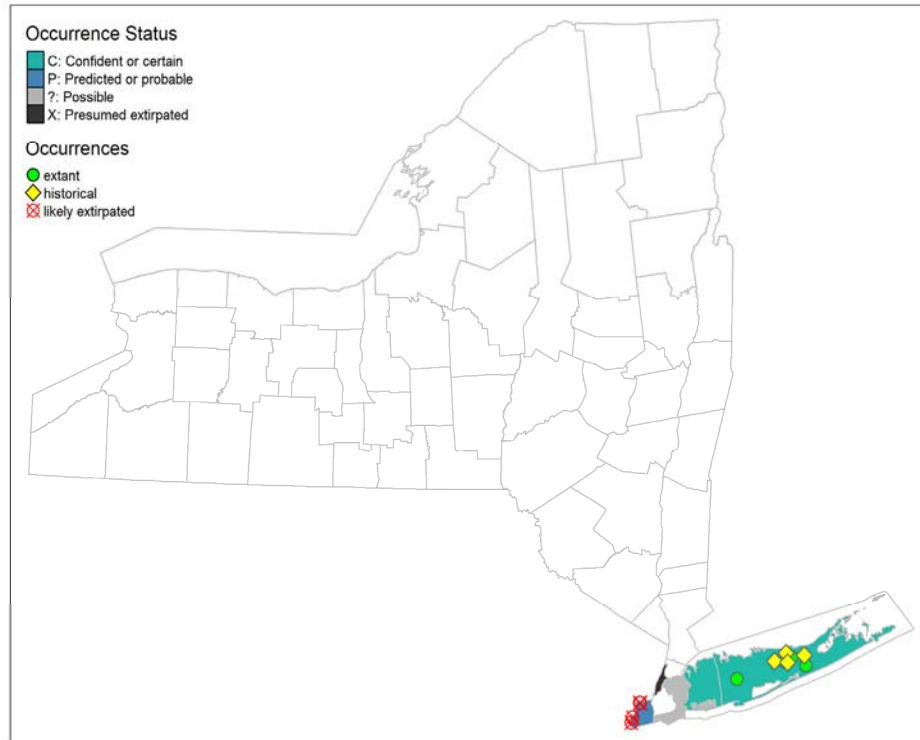


Figure 2 2: NYS distribution for *Euphorbia ipecacuanhae*

Table 1. Number of records (element occurrences) of *Euphorbia ipecacuanhae* grouped by the dates known to be extant (the years spanning first observation to last observation) and the number and percent of total of USGS 7.5 minute map quadrangles these observations fall within for New York State.

Years	# of Records	# of distinct quads	% of quads in State
Pre-1995	8	7	0.7
1995-2004	2	2	0.2
2005-2014	1	1	0.1
2015-2023	1	1	0.1

Monitoring in New York

No populations of ipecac spurge occur on State Park lands however one population is on Suffolk County parkland. No regular monitoring program is currently in place in New York. The four extant populations range from only two plants at three locations (last observed 1999, 2008, 2017) to ten plants at one location (last observed in 2000) (NYNHP 2023, 2024).

IV. Primary Habitat or Community Type *(from NY crosswalk of NE Aquatic, Marine, or Terrestrial Habitat Classification Systems):*

NYNHP Ecological Communities: Pitch pine-oak-heath woodland, Railroad, Mowed roadside/pathway (Edinger et al. 2012, NYNHP 2023, 2024).

Habitat or Community Type Trend in New York

Declining: Stable: Increasing: Unknown: ✓

Time Frame of Decline/Increase:

Habitat Specialist Yes: No: ✓

Habitat Discussion:

In NY, ipecac spurge has been found along railroad tracks, on pebbly roadsides, and in pitch pine barrens (NYNHP 2023, 2024). Dry lands, pinelands and barrens (Fernald 1950). In sand, chiefly on the coastal plain (Gleason & Cronquist 1991).

V. Species Demographics and Life History *(include information about species life span, reproductive longevity, reproductive capacity, age to maturity, and ability to disperse and colonize):*

Ipecac spurge is a perennial, with deep, stout rootstock. Its stems are decumbent or slightly ascending, branched, often densely clumped, and the previous year's dead stems not persistent (FNA 2024). As a perennial, ipecac spurge plants live for three or more seasons. Many perennials may not be mature enough to bloom during its first year. Perennial wildflowers re-grow each season (Werier et al. 2023). Propagation considerations: Ipecac spurge is hermaphroditic (has both male and female organs) and grows in light (sandy), medium (loamy) and heavy (clay) soils. It grows in mildly acidic, neutral, and basic (mildly alkaline) soils. It prefers moist soil. It can grow in semi-shade (light woodland) or no shade (Plants For A Future 2024). In NY, the four extant locations for ipecac spurge have been surveyed only once and information on life span and persistence is lacking (NYNHP 2023).

Table 2. Phenology of *Euphorbia ipecacuanhae* in New York State.

Phenology	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Flowering												
Fruiting												

VI. Threats

Ipecac spurge is threatened by use of and succession of sandy areas, railroad embankments, and roadsides (NYNHP 2023, 2024).

Are there regulatory mechanisms that protect the species or its habitat in New York?

Yes: No: ✓ Unknown:

If yes, describe mechanism and whether adequate to protect species/habitat:

Describe knowledge of management/conservation actions that are needed for recovery/conservation, or to eliminate, minimize, or compensate for the identified threats:

Ipecac spurge needs disturbance to reduce competition from woody plants or more aggressive herbaceous plants, but too much direct disturbance to the plants will reduce the population. Its habitat could be disturbed in the non-growing season to open it up for seed germination and colonization, but direct disturbance should be prevented during the growing season (NYNHP 2023, 2024).

Complete Conservation Actions table using IUCN conservation actions taxonomy at link below. Use headings 1-6 for Action Category (e.g., Land/Water Protection) and associated subcategories for Action (e.g., Site/Area Protection) -

<https://www.iucnredlist.org/resources/conservation-actions-classification-scheme>

Table 3. Recommended conservation actions for *Euphorbia ipecacuanhae*.

Conservation Actions	
Action Category	Action
Land/water protection	1.1. Site/area protection
Land/water protection	1.2. Resource & habitat protection
Land/water management	2.1. Site/area management
Land/water management	2.2. Invasive/problematic species control
Land/water management	2.3. Habitat & natural process restoration

VII. References

This SSA drew heavily from these resources:

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New York Natural Heritage Program, State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry. 2023. Element Occurrence and Element Dataset. Albany, New York. [Exported 12/14/2023].

New York Natural Heritage Program. 2024. Online Conservation Guide for *Euphorbia ipecacuanhae*. Available from: <https://guides.nynhp.org/american-ipecac/>. Accessed January 2, 2024.

Werier, David, Kyle Webster, Troy Weldy, Andrew Nelson, Richard Mitchell, and Robert Ingalls. 2023 New York Flora Atlas. [S. M. Landry and K. N. Campbell (original application development), USF Water Institute. University of South Florida]. New York Flora Association, Albany, New York. [Accessed 11/21/2023].

Additional references:

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Mitchell, Richard S. 1986. A checklist of New York State plants. Bulletin No. 458. New York State Museum. 272 pp.

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