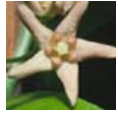




Invasive Plant Atlas of New England

Catalog of Species Search Results



[:: Catalog of Species Search](#)



Aegopodium podagraria

(Goutweed
Bishop's weed)

[Common Name\(s\)](#) | [Full Scientific Name](#) | [Family Name Common](#) | [Family Scientific Name](#) | [Images](#) | [Synonyms](#) | [Description](#) | [Similar Species](#) | [Reproductive/Dispersal Mechanisms](#) | [Distribution](#) | [History of Introduction in New England](#) | [Habitats in New England](#) | [Threats](#) | [Early Warning Notes](#) | [Management Links](#) | [Documentation Needs](#) | [Additional Information](#) | [References](#) | [Data Retrieval](#) | [Maps of New England Plant Distribution](#)

COMMON NAME

Goutweed
Bishop's weed

FULL SCIENTIFIC NAME

Aegopodium podagraria L.

FAMILY NAME COMMON

Carrot family

FAMILY SCIENTIFIC NAME

Apiaceae

IMAGES



Inflorescence/fruit
of variegated form



Leaf close-up of
variegated form



Incursion



Close-up of roots



Close-up of flowers



Young plant

NOMENCLATURE/SYNONYMS

Synonyms: None

DESCRIPTION

Botanical Glossary

Aegopodium podagraria is a creeping, herbaceous perennial that can grow to be 40 cm-1 m (15.7-39.4 in.) tall. The basal and lower leaves have long petioles. There are usually 9 leaflets per lower leaf, although this can vary. Each leaflet is ovate with an acute or acuminate apex. The bases of these leaflets can be rounded or cordate. The lower leaflets are 3-8 cm (1-3 in.) long and have a serrate margin. The upper leaflets are similar to the lower leaflets, but are smaller and ternate in their arrangement, and have shorter petioles. The horticultural variety usually grown (*Aegopodium podagraria* var. *variegatum*) has white margins on its leaves.

The white flowers are arranged in umbels that are 6-12 cm (2.25-4.75 in.) in diameter. Each umbel is borne on a long peduncle, and has 15-25 rays that are about 2.5 cm (1 in.) or more in length. The flowers of *Aegopodium podagraria* appear in June. The brown fruits oblong-ovoid, laterally flattened and 3-4 mm (0.12-0.16 in.) long.

Page References Bailey 754, Fernald 1097, Gleason & Cronquist 371, Holmgren 347, Magee & Ahles 797. See reference section below for full citations.

SIMILAR SPECIES

Zizia aurea (L.) Koch. (Common golden alexander) [Picture of *Z. aurea*](#)

Cryptotaenia canadensis (L.) DC. (Canadian honewort) [Picture of *C. canadensis*](#)

Osmorhiza longistylis (Torr.) DC. (Aniseroot) [Picture of *O. longistylis*](#)

REPRODUCTIVE/DISPERSAL MECHANISMS

Aegopodium podagraria reproduces vegetatively via stolons, and can spread aggressively when its root zone is unrestricted. New plants easily grow from stolons that become detached. Most seeds fall to the ground, and account for only a small portion of this

plant's spread. Some seeds may also be passively dispersed by moving water or by animals.

DISTRIBUTION

Aegopodium podagraria is native to Europe. In the U.S. it is found throughout the East and Midwest, and also the northwestern states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Wyoming. It is found in all the states of New England.

HISTORY OF INTRODUCTION IN NEW ENGLAND

Aegopodium podagraria was probably brought to New England as an ornamental foliage plant, but then easily escaped to naturalize along roadsides, waste places and cultivated ground. W.W. Bailey reported its presence in Providence, Rhode Island in 1863 (J. of the Torrey Botanical Society 1876, Vol.3: 176). It was noted in the early 1870's in both New York and New Jersey. It was listed as present in the Bangor, Maine region by 1906 (Rhodora, 1906, Vol. 8: 72).

HABITATS IN NEW ENGLAND

Agricultural Field
Edge
Open Disturbed Area
Pasture
Roadside
Vacant Lot
Yard or Garden

Aegopodium podagraria does well in partial sun to full shade, with a preference for well-drained, evenly moist soils. It is tolerant of poor soils and can grow in a wide range of soil pH values.

THREATS

Digging up this plant can often be counterproductive as fragmentation of the root system stimulates reproduction via the stolons. The non-variagated form is particularly aggressive.

MANAGEMENT LINKS

[Plant Conservation Alliance fact sheet](#)
Includes management information.

DOCUMENTATION NEEDS

Documentation required: A specific photograph or mounted snippet

of the leaves.

Best time for documentation: Summer, fall.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Plant Conservation Alliance

Fact sheet with description and control information

Integrated Taxonomic Information System

Taxonomic information about the species

The PLANTS database

General information and map

University of Minnesota Extension Service

An image and brief description

Ohio State University

Description of the plant in a horticultural setting

The Nature Conservancy

Photographs

REFERENCES

Bailey, L. H. 1949. Manual of Cultivated Plants. Macmillan, New York.

Britton, N. L. and A. Brown. 1970. An Illustrated Flora of the Northeastern United States vol. 2. Dover Publications Inc., New York.

Dlussky, G.M. 1998. Mechanisms of competition for pollinators in *Anthriscus sylvestris* Hoffm. and *Aegopodium podagraria* L. (Apiaceae). Zhurnal Obsheei Biologii 59 (1): 24-44.

Fernald, M.L. 1950. Gray's Manual of Botany 8th ed. American Book Co., Boston.

Gleason, H.A. and A.C. Cronquist. 1991. Manual of Vascular Plants of the Northeastern United States and Adjacent Canada. 2nd ed. New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, New York.

Holmgren, N.H. 1998. Illustrated Companion to Gleason and Cronquist's Manual. New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, New York.

Magee, D.W and H.E. Ahles. 1999. Flora of the Northeast. University of Massachusetts Press, Amherst.

USDA, NRCS. 2001. The PLANTS Database, Version 3.1. (<http://plants.usda.gov>). National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, LA 70874-4490 USA.

DATA RETRIEVAL

Select a task by clicking the radio button and then click "Subm

Selection."

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Submit Selection

MAPS OF PLANT DISTRIBUTION IN NEW ENGLAND

Select a study area by clicking the radio button and then click "Submit Selection."

- The whole New England area
- One or more states
- One or more counties
- One or more towns (county sub-divisions)

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