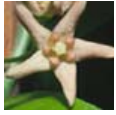




Invasive Plant Atlas of New England

Catalog of Species Search Results



[:: Catalog of Species Search](#)



Glechoma hederacea

(Gill-over-the-ground
Ground ivy
Creeping Charlie)

[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

Gill-over-the-ground
Ground ivy
Creeping Charlie

FULL SCIENTIFIC NAME

Glechoma hederacea L.

FAMILY NAME COMMON

Mint family

FAMILY SCIENTIFIC NAME

Lamiaceae

IMAGES



Incursion



Flowers and leaves



Vegetative spread



Habit

NOMENCLATURE/SYNONYMS

Synonyms: *Nepeta hederacea* (L.) Trevisan

DESCRIPTION

Botanical Glossary

Glechoma hederacea is a perennial herb that grows 2.5-20.3 cm (1-8 in.) tall. It has slender creeping stems, typically 1-4 dm (3.9 - 15.7 in.) long, and small erect stems. The creeping stems can be described as varying from just above ground to superficial rhizomes (just below ground). The stems read along their length. They are square and nearly glabrous to villous; anthers are pilose. The leaves are opposite, variably petiolate, nearly round to ovate, 1.5 t-4 cm (0.6-1.6 in.) wide and have rounded teeth at their margin or mown the leaves give off a mild mint-like odor.

The blue or violet flowers occur in clusters of three at the leaf axils, on short pedicels, and are 1.0-1.5 cm (0.38-0.62 in.) long. The calyx has five pointed lobes, is 5.5-9 mm (0.22-0.35 in.) long. The corolla tube is elongate, easily lobed, and has two lips. The upper lip is 2-lobed and slightly concave, the lower lip is much larger and has 3 lobes: two smaller lateral lobes and one larger central lobe. The flower has four stamens that ascend under the upper corolla lip. The fruit is a small (1 mm / 0.04 in.) brown nutlet.

Page References Bailey 852, Fernald 1224, Gleason & Cronquist 448, Magee & Ahles 884, Newcomb 86, Peterson & McKenny 348. See references below for full citations.

SIMILAR SPECIES

Malva neglecta Wallr. (Common mallow)

Lamium amplexicaule L. (Henbit)

Lamium purpureum L. (Purple Deadnettle)

Veronica persica Poir. (Russian speedwell)

Character	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	<i>Malva neglecta</i>	<i>Lamium amplexicaule</i>	<i>Lamium purpureum</i>
Leaves	opposite	alternate	opposite	opposite
Rhizomatous	yes	no	no	no
Flowers	blue-violet, purple	white to purple tinged	purple	pink-purple

Stems	10-40 cm (4-16 in.) running along ground	prostrate to ascending up to 1 m (3.25 ft.)	decumbant 10-40 cm (4-16 in.)	decumbant/pros 10-40 cm (4-16
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REPRODUCTIVE/DISPERSAL MECHANISMS

For the most part, *Glechoma hederacea* reproduces clonally and spreads the nodes along its creeping stems. It is unclear exactly to what reproduction contributes to its spread, as seedlings are uncommon. *hederaceae* may also be spread short distances by fragmentation.

DISTRIBUTION

Glechoma hederacea is native to Eurasia. It is widespread throughout occurring in all of the lower 48 states except for Nevada, Arizona and common in all of the states of New England.

HISTORY OF INTRODUCTION IN NEW ENGLAND

The history of this plant's arrival in New England is unclear. Herbarium that *Glechoma hederacea* was present in New England at least as early as the 19th century. It may have arrived much earlier than that, and established through multiple introductions. This seems particularly considering its extensive distribution throughout the United States and

HABITATS IN NEW ENGLAND

Abandoned Field
Open Disturbed Area
Pasture
Roadside
Vacant Lot
Wet Meadow
Yard or Garden

Glechoma hederacea favors moist, open to shaded habitats including disturbed areas and field edges. It can also be found in some more habitats, such as moist woods, woodland seeps and floodplain forests.

THREATS

Glechoma hederacea is mostly a nuisance species of lawns, gardens, however, its moderate shade tolerance and its ability to spread give it potential threat to less disturbed and minimally managed habitats.

DOCUMENTATION NEEDS

Documentation required: Herbarium specimen or mounted snippet of flowers or fruits.

Best time for documentation: Summer, fall.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Integrated Taxonomic Information System

Taxonomic information about the species

The PLANTS Database

General information and a distribution map

Virginia Tech Department of Plant Pathology, Physiology and Weed Sci

Images and brief description

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National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, LA 70874-4490 USA.

DATA RETRIEVAL

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

- Formatted display as table
- Export as comma-delimited text file

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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