



Pine Barren Boneset



NJ Natural Heritage
Program Data: August
2008
Current and Historically
Documented Records

Scientific Name: *Eupatorium resinosum*

State-listed: Endangered

Federally-listed: None

State Conservation Rank: S2

Global Conservation Rank: G3

Description/Identification Tips: Herbaceous perennial in the aster family (Asteraceae), 40-100 cm tall, sticky-hairy. Leaves opposite, slender, pointed and toothed, with bases clasping the stem but not fused. Flowers small, white, numerous (9-14) in flat-topped inflorescences.

Range: NC, NJ, SC; possibly extirpated in DE and NY.

Best Time to See: Blooms late summer to early fall.

Habitat: Wet areas (bogs), especially in the Pine Barrens. Seepage bogs, shrub bogs, pocosins, stream banks, and disturbed wet openings.

Management: Protection and maintenance of suitable habitat for large populations. Ensure sufficient genetic diversity to overcome self-incompatibility. In the creation of new populations or management of declining populations, the introduction of new genotypes should be considered.

Needs: Protection from inbreeding depression, successional change, pine plantations, and agricultural threats.

Comments: Although toxic in large doses, Boneset has traditionally been used medicinally to treat colds and general aches and to supposedly heal broken bones. Its potential use against cancer is being explored.

References: Hough 1983; Gleason and Cronquist 1991; Eastman 1995; Clemants and Gracie 2006; NatureServe 2010; USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database 2011.

— Ecological Interactions —

* While the flowers of Pine Barren Boneset secrete abundant nectar to attract pollinating insects like butterflies, small beetles, bees and flies, the hairy stem discourages crawling insects that cannot fly. This could be a strategy to promote long-distance dispersal of pollen.

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