

# PLANT EXTINCTION REFERENCE SHEET

The Growing Greens, the Mysterious Weeds, and Poisonous Plants

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## STATISTICS

### Number of Plants Facing Extinction

Wikipedia — 8.6% of evaluated plant species critically endangered; 5702 species as of December 2023; 5371 data deficient

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_recently\\_extinct\\_plants](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_recently_extinct_plants)

### Current Extinction Rate

Panda.org — Extinction rate 1,000 to 10,000 times higher than natural rate; between 10,000 and 100,000 species lost per year at upper estimate

<https://www.panda.org>

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## ARMERIA ARCUATA

### Kew Plants of the World Online

Native range Vila Nova de Milfontes, SW Portugal; subshrub classification; subtropical biome

<https://powo.science.kew.org/taxon/urn:lsid:ipni.org:names:686232-1>

### EPPO Global Database

Formerly endemic Portugal; possibly now extinct

<https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/ARVAC>

### Annals of Botany / Oxford Academic — Abeli et al., 2025

Extinction confirmed; hybrid identity of Utrecht specimen; DNA genomic study

<https://academic.oup.com/aob/advance-article-abstract/doi/10.1093/aob/mcaf042/8119359>

### PubMed

Same 2025 Abeli study indexed

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/40274391/>

### Recently Extinct Species Database

Full status, synonym history, hybrid origin documentation

<https://recentlyextinctspecies.com/caryophyllales-amaranths-cacti-pitcher-plants-plumbagos-etc/armeria-arcuata>

### Plants For A Future

Medicinal uses; cultivation requirements; propagation methods

<https://pfaf.org/user/Plant.aspx?LatinName=Armeria+maritima>

### Kew — Thrift Plant Profile

Traditional medicinal uses; tuberculosis remedy; hangover cure; Orkney Islands documentation

<https://www.kew.org/plants/thrift>

### First Nature

Ancient belief treating lead poisoning; Plumbaginaceae family name origin

<https://www.first-nature.com/flowers/armeria-maritima.php>

### **Wisconsin Horticulture**

Appearance; cultivation; propagation; drought tolerance

<https://hort.extension.wisc.edu/articles/sea-thrift-armeria-maritima/>

*IMAGE STATUS: No confirmed photograph of *Armeria arcuata* exists. The Utrecht specimen was confirmed hybrid by DNA in April 2025. This image is waiting for someone to send it.*

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## **DIGITARIA LAEVIPLUMIS — Smooth Slender Crabgrass**

### **UNH Today — University of New Hampshire**

Full article; extinction confirmation; Albion R. Hodgdon Herbarium role; all images sourced here

<https://www.unh.edu/unhtoday/2024/06/unh-hodgdon-herbarium-extinction-native-new-hampshire-crabgrass>

### **NH Department of Natural and Cultural Resources**

First documented plant extinction in New Hampshire; official state announcement

<https://www.dncr.nh.gov/news-and-media/nhs-first-documented-plant-extinction-confirmed>

### **Union Leader**

Rock Rimmon botanical hotspot; Manchester NH; extinction details; recreation impact

[https://www.unionleader.com/news/environment/manchester-specific-crabgrass-officially-ruled-extinct/article\\_9e515bf8-d355-5586-9132-eb458b561754.html](https://www.unionleader.com/news/environment/manchester-specific-crabgrass-officially-ruled-extinct/article_9e515bf8-d355-5586-9132-eb458b561754.html)

### **BioOne / Systematic Botany — Nichols et al., 2024**

Peer reviewed study; full taxonomy; habitat; morphology; Mexico samples ruled out

<https://bioone.org/journals/systematic-botany/volume-49/issue-2/036364424X17189138775920/Molecular-and-Taxonomic-Re-evaluation-of-the-Digitaria-filiformis-Complex-Poaceae/10.1600/036364424X17189138775920.full>

### **Granite Geek / Concord Monitor**

Slim hope of Maine survival; urban parks rare plant discussion

<https://granitegeek.concordmonitor.com/2021/10/13/in-a-manchester-park-a-little-piece-of-planet-wide-species-extinction/>

*IMAGES — All sourced from UNH Today article above. Open source status unconfirmed — verify with UNH before publishing.*

### **Herbarium specimen 1902 — courtesy Albion R. Hodgdon Herbarium**

[https://www.unh.edu/unhtoday/sites/default/files/styles/article\\_huge/public/article/2024/slide/colsa-extinct-crabgrass-specimen-drawing-herbarium.png](https://www.unh.edu/unhtoday/sites/default/files/styles/article_huge/public/article/2024/slide/colsa-extinct-crabgrass-specimen-drawing-herbarium.png)

### **Comparison drawing smooth crabgrass vs related species — courtesy Systematic Botany issue 49(2)**

<https://www.unh.edu/unhtoday/sites/default/files/media/colsa-extinct-crabgrass-specimen-drawings.png>

### **Rock Rimmon site photograph — W.F. Nichols, courtesy Systematic Botany**

[https://www.unh.edu/unhtoday/sites/default/files/styles/article\\_huge/public/article/2024/slide/colsa-extinct-crabgrass-rock-rimmon-site.jpg](https://www.unh.edu/unhtoday/sites/default/files/styles/article_huge/public/article/2024/slide/colsa-extinct-crabgrass-rock-rimmon-site.jpg)

### **Researchers examining specimen — photographer Jeremy Gasowski, UNH Marketing**

[https://www.unh.edu/unhtoday/sites/default/files/styles/article\\_huge/public/article/2024/slide/colsa-extinct-crabgrass-herbarium-staff-student-review-specimen.jpg](https://www.unh.edu/unhtoday/sites/default/files/styles/article_huge/public/article/2024/slide/colsa-extinct-crabgrass-herbarium-staff-student-review-specimen.jpg)

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## **DELISSEA SINUATA**

## **Mongabay**

Declared extinct 2025; last observed 1937; Waianae Mountains O'ahu Hawaii

<https://news.mongabay.com/short-article/2025/12/declared-extinct-in-2025-a-look-back-at-some-of-the-species-weve-lost/>

## **The Revelator**

Nonnative species habitat destruction; purple berries description; Hawaii extinction capital

<https://therevelator.org/extinct-2025/>

## **IFAW**

Five Hawaiian honeycreeper bird species declared extinct; broader Hawaii pattern of loss

<https://www.ifaw.org/international/journal/animals-most-impacted-climate-change>

## **Smithsonian Flora of the Hawaiian Islands**

Specimen records; distribution O'ahu Waianae

<https://naturalhistory2.si.edu/botany/hawaiianflora/result2.cfm?genus=Delissea&species;=sinuata>

## **Hawaiian Lobelioids — Wikipedia**

Genus context; eleven of fifteen *Delissea* species now extinct; remaining four critically endangered

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hawaiian\\_lobelioids](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hawaiian_lobelioids)

*IMAGE STATUS: Last observed 1937. No confirmed living photograph exists. Herbarium specimens held at Bishop Museum and Smithsonian NMNH. This image is waiting for someone to send it.*

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## **CONTACT FOR VOLUNTEERS AND RESEARCHERS**

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