

Crowded Wormseed Mustard

(*Erysimum inconspicuum* var. *coarctatum*)

- Crowded wormseed mustard is a short-lived biennial herb reliant on a soil seed bank.
- It can reach heights of 75 cm but also can be quite small (< 10 cm) depending on the exposure and availability of moisture and nutrients.
- It can have multiple flowering stalks and each yellow flower has four petals.
- Crowded wormseed mustard flowers in July.



Provincial Distribution



Habitat/ Range

Crowded wormseed mustard is only known to one location in Newfoundland and Labrador, Chimney Cove on the west coast of the island. At Chimney Cove, it is located on a seaside, calcareous cliff where it is found both on gravel and in a meadow with grasses, forbs, and scattered shrubs.

Population Trends

A 1990s survey found approximately 100 flowering crowded wormseed mustard individuals. In 2009 a survey found approximately 20 flowering individuals.

Limiting Factors and Threats

The restricted distribution and small population size of crowded wormseed mustard puts this species at risk. The population is placed at further risk by grazing from local livestock. Natural disasters, including rock slides, also pose a threat.

Special Significance

Of all the endangered species in Newfoundland crowded wormseed mustard has the lowest population numbers.

You can help protect the crowded wormseed mustard:

- Support habitat protection for all rare plants.
- If you see a flower, take a picture instead of picking it.

Department of Environment & Conservation

Wildlife Division

Endangered Species & Biodiversity

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