

## Sharpleaf Aster

(*Oclemena acuminata*)

- The Sharpleaf Aster is an inconspicuous white-flowered aster, with broadly whorled upper leaves.
- The Sharpleaf Aster can reproduce by rhizomes or flowers.
- Flowers open during the late summer and early fall.



### Provincial Distribution



### Habitat/ Range

The Sharpleaf Aster grows in shaded woodland habitats that are cool, well-drained, and contain acidic soils. In Newfoundland and Labrador the species has only been found in J.T. Cheeseman Provincial Park. It is also found in eastern Canada (Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Québec, and Ontario) and the United States.

### Population Trends

The J.T. Cheeseman Provincial Park population contains about 1150-1250 aerial shoots (though possibly as few as five clones), of which only 300 flower in any given year. This population appears to be stable. Another population was recorded in the Bays of Islands area in the 1920s but it has never been relocated.

### Limiting Factors and Threats

A large portion of the known population is within highly disturbed public areas of the J.T. Cheeseman Provincial Park. Campsite construction, alterations and trail development would need to take into consideration the Sharpleaf Aster.

### Special Significance

The Sharpleaf Aster is endemic to North America.

### You can help protect the Sharpleaf Aster:

- Support habitat protection for all our rare species.
- 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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