

Woolly Arnica

(*Arnica angustifolia* subsp. *tomentosa*)

- The Woolly Arnica is a slow-growing, long-lived perennial aster.
- It produces a single bell-shaped yellow flower-head borne 20 to 25 cm above the ground.
- Flowers open from mid-July to early August.
- Its leaves, stem, and the base of its flowerhead are densely covered with woolly white hairs.



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Provincial Distribution



Habitat/ Range

The Woolly Arnica is found in western Canada and the north-western United States, with a small disjunct population on the Island of Newfoundland. In this province, it grows in low heath vegetation at the edges of limestone barrens in Port au Choix, Cape St. George, St. Paul's Inlet, and historically on Table Mountain.

Population Trends

Population trends are unknown; however, estimates suggest the Port au Choix area supports 67 mature flowering individuals and that this constitutes the largest population of Woolly Arnica in the province. Populations are restricted in area and estimated to cover less than 36 km² in total.

Limiting Factors and Threats

Small isolated populations, restricted limestone habitat, and low seed production limit the Woolly Arnica's distribution and abundance. Other threats include climate change, quarrying, mineral exploration, ATV use, maintenance of roads and trails, flower picking, and trampling by hikers.

Special Significance

This showy plant has helped build interest in, and stewardship of, the unique limestone barrens of western Newfoundland.

You can help protect the Woolly Arnica:

- Stop habitat destruction by keeping all-terrain vehicles on approved trails.
- If you see a flower, take a picture instead of picking it.

Department of Environment & Conservation

Wildlife Division

Endangered Species & Biodiversity

(709) 637-2026

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