



## SOUTH COAST CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Protecting and Restoring at Risk Species and Ecological Communities on BC's South Coast

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### Vancouver Island Beggarticks

*Bidens amplissima*

A member of the family Asteraceae (“asters”), this wetland annual has over 85% of its global range in BC. The genetic makeup of *B. amplissima* suggests that it only recently evolved from two closely related species – “nodding” and “three-parted” beggarticks, and may be the result of hybridization. Once thought to be endemic only to extreme southwestern BC, this species has recently been discovered in Washington State.



Flowers and leaves Chris Lee



Close up of flower Brian Klinkenberg



*Bidens cernua*



*Bidens amplissima*

Comparison of achenes Brian  
Klinkenberg



Flower and stem arrangement Brian  
Klinkenberg



Typical associations Brian Klinkenberg



Close up of leaf structure Brian  
Klinkenberg

## Characteristics

*Height to approximately 1 m.* An annual herb with erect branching stems. Both stems and flower stems (inflorescence) may be smooth to slightly hairy. The toothed, opposite leaves are 8-20 cm long and range from un-lobed to deeply three-lobed. The short leaf stalks are sometimes slightly winged. The 6-9 yellow ray-petals of the flowers are clustered at the ends of branches. Two rows of short, green, leaf-like involucre bracts (modified leaf) surround each head. Numerous tiny single-seeded fruits (achenes) develop on each head after flowering. Achenes are tan or brown coloured, 5-7 mm long and wedge-shaped, each with 2-4 barbed needle-like appendages (awns) that assist in seed dispersal by hooking onto fur, feathers or clothing.

## Status

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Global Status:</b>     | G3   |
| <b>Provincial Status:</b> | S3   |
| <b>SARA Status:</b>       | Special Concern                            |
| <b>BC List Status:</b>    | Blue (Considered to be of Special Concern) |

## Resources

### For further information see

#### [Develop With Care 2014 Factsheet # 16 Vancouver Island Beggarticks](#)

Scroll down to the bottom of the DWC site to access the factsheet

#### [BRITISH COLUMBIA LOSES AN ENDEMIC SPECIES: BIDENS AMPLISSIMA \(ASTERACEAE\) ALSO OCCURS IN WASHINGTON STATE](#)

BOTANICAL ELECTRONIC NEWS 2002 (scroll down)

#### [BC Species and Ecosystems Explorer: Species and Ecosystems Search](#)

A source for authoritative conservation information on thousands of plants and animals and hundreds of ecological communities in BC. From here connect to all provincial and federal recovery plans (including the SARA Registry), COSEWIC (Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada), Identified Wildlife guidance and conservation requirements for specific species and ecological communities of conservation concern impacted by forestry activities) and links to E-Flora and E-Fauna (the Electronic Atlas of the Plants and Wildlife of British Columbia).

#### [British Columbia's Coast Region Species & Ecosystems of Conservation Concern](#)

A joint venture resource providing comprehensive information on a range of species and ecological communities specific to the Coast Region of BC (including the South, Central and North Coast, Vancouver Island and Haida Gwaii).

#### [Develop With Care Guidelines \(see Lower Mainland Region section and factsheet\)](#)

Environmental guidelines for urban and rural land development in BC.

### **Species at Risk & Local Governments a Primer for BC**

Learn what species are at risk in your area, search by name, habitat type, regional district and forest district.

### **E-Flora the electronic atlas of the Flora of BC**

A volunteer-driven GIS-based biogeoclimatic atlas of the vascular plants, fungi, algae, bryophytes and lichens of BC.

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**Source URL:** <http://sccp.ca/species-habitat/vancouver-island-beggarticks>

### **Links**

[1] <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wld/documents/bmp/devwithcare/index.html>

[2] <http://www.ou.edu/cas/botany-micro/ben/ben293.html>

[3] <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/plants-animals-ecosystems/conservation-data-centre/explore-cdc-data/species-and-ecosystems-explorer>

[4] <http://www.geog.ubc.ca/biodiversity/factsheets/>

[5] <http://www.speciesatrisk.bc.ca/>