

Lepidium latifolium

Invasive to Maine

Perennial Pepperweed
Broadleaved Pepperweed

Coastal and Upland

Leaves



Wikimedia user Malte



Leaves are waxy, alternate, oval to lance shaped with smooth or toothed margins. Leaves near the base of the plant are on petioles. Leaves toward the top of the plant have no petioles but do not clasp the stem.

LEAF ARRANGEMENT	LEAF TYPE	LEAF/LEAFLET SHAPE	LEAF/LEAFLET EDGE
 ROSETTE	 SIMPLE	 LOBED	 TOOTHED
 OPPOSITE	 COMPOUND-PALMATE	 OVAL	 SMOOTH
 ALTERNATE	 COMPOUND-PINNATE	 BLADE	 WAVY

Plant



Wikimedia user Malte



Look for a 30cm - 1.5 m tall plant with alternate leaves and white flowers often growing near coastal marshes or by roadsides. Juveniles are a basal rosette plant.

Stem



Steve Dewey, Utah State University



The base of the stems are semi-woody. Plants may be single stemmed or have multiple stems forming a woody patch. It has a large creeping root system.

Seasonal Change



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, UConn



From late spring through summer look for dense clusters of white flowers with 4 petals. Small 2mm wide fruits are flat disk shaped on stems.

Similar Species

There are several other species of pepperweed in the same genus as broadleaved pepperweed. The best way to tell broadleaved pepperweed from its non-invasive cousins is by its waxy leaves and coastal marsh habitat.

Did You Know?

Broadleaved pepperweed is in the mustard family. Like many other plants in the family, it has a strong flavor to deter herbivores. The leaves have a sharp peppery taste, giving pepperweed its common name.

Researched and created by Caroline Casals

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