



Piedmont Bedstraw

Galium pedemontanum (Bellardi) All.

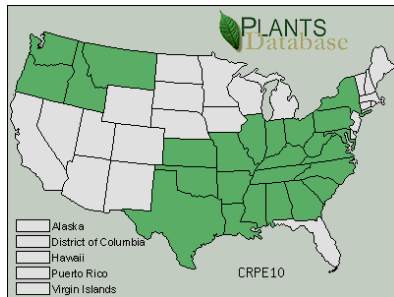
Synonym: *Cruciata pedemontana* (Bellardi) Ehrend and *Vaillantia pedemontana* (Bellardi)

Common Names: piedmont bedstraw, foothills bedstraw

Native Origin: southern and central Europe

Description: An annual herbaceous plant in the madder family (*Rubiaceae*) growing up to 28 inches in height. Plants develop simple or branched stems from a thin taproot. Stems are erect, 4 to 28 inches tall, and 4-angled. Both stems and leaves have upward turning stiff hairs or bristles. Leaves grow in whorls of 4 and are simple, elliptic to oblong or narrowly lanceolate with a prominent midrib. Small yellowish-green flowers are 4-lobed, elliptic, bloom from April to June, and produce small smooth kidney-shaped fruits.

Habitat: It grows in habitats such as waste ground, disturbed sites, roadsides, trail sides, forest edge, yards, paths and grassy fields. It prefers sunny locations and is common along rock/masonry walls at the base of buildings and sidewalks.



Distribution: This species is reported from states shaded on Plants Database map. It is wide spread in KY and other states.

Ecological Impacts: This plant weedy propagates itself and spreads to overtake native plant communities.

Control and Management:



- **Manual-** Hand-pull or dig small infestations before seed formation; remove entire tap root. Use protective gloves when handling this plant. Seed banks continue to pose a problem with this species. Mowing is ineffective in that it increases and populations.
- **Chemical-** It can be effectively controlled using any of several readily available general use herbicides such as glyphosate or triclopyr. Follow label and state requirements.

References: <http://plants.usda.gov>, www.nps.gov/plants/alien, www.missouriplants.com/Yellowopp/Galium_pedemontanum_page.html, www.fs.fed.us/ne/delaware/ilpin/1344.co, www.biosurvey.ou.edu/okwild/pedbed.html, http://www.nwcb.wa.gov/weed_info/Written_findings/Galium_pedemontanu.html, www.cas.vanderbilt.edu/species/crpe10.htm