



Pine barrens gentian



Plant Botanical Name:

Gentiana autumnalis

USBG Plant Location:

National Garden

Plant Threat Level:

Vulnerable

Gentiana autumnalis, also known as the pine barren gentian, is native to the Atlantic coast from New Jersey southward to Georgia. Historically, fires caused by lightning were common in these wet pine barrens and coastal bogs where this rare species grows. These fires maintained the unique plant community by preventing the succession of the ecosystem to hardwood forest, in addition to recycling organic matter to the sandy, acidic and nutrient-poor soil. Development, fire suppression, invasive weeds and the altering of natural water flows all pose threats to the remaining populations of *Gentiana autumnalis*.

National Garden Room Location:

Regional Garden

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