

**Key to the Goldenrod Species of New England and New York
(Solidago, Euthamia)**

- 1a. Overall inflorescence corymb-like, ± flat-topped.
 - 2a. Heads in glomerules or on very short peduncles.
 - 3a. Leaves linear, from 1 to 3 mm wide (to 6 mm wide in some Maine populations), commonly with 1 prominent vein (often with 2 additional faint veins), copiously gland-dotted. Stem leaves abundant, some reflexed, the larger subtending axillary tufts of smaller leaflets. Ray florets 7 to 17. ***Euthamia caroliniana***
 - 3b. Leaves linear to narrowly lanceolate, from 3 to 12 mm wide, generally with 3 to 5 parallel veins, sparsely gland-dotted. Stem leaves not highly congested, not usually reflexed, not usually subtending axillary tufts. Ray florets 17 to 22. ***Euthamia graminifolia***
 - 2b. Heads borne on evident peduncles (not in glomerules).
 - 4a. Mid- to upper-stem leaves ovate. Leaves moderately pubescent. Rays yellow. ***Solidago rigida***
 - 4b. Upper stem leaves linear to lance-linear. Leaves glabrous or sparsely pubescent. Rays white or yellow.
 - 5a. Rays white. ***Solidago ptarmicoides***
 - 5b. Rays yellow. ***Solidago ohioensis***
- 1b. Overall inflorescence various, but not corymb-like.
 - 6a. Heads arranged one-sided on branches. Branches spreading to ascending, often also recurved. Overall inflorescence panicle-like, often broadly so.
 - 7a. Leaves with 3 prominent, long parallel veins.
 - 8a. Stems glaucous and glabrous below the inflorescence. ***Solidago gigantea***
 - 8b. Stems not glaucous, variously pubescent below the inflorescence.
 - 9a. Lower leaf surfaces uniformly pubescent. Peduncles and bracts of peduncles with some minute glands. (View at 20x.) ***Solidago altissima***
 - 9b. Lower leaf surfaces pubescent primarily along main veins. Peduncles and bracts of peduncles not glandular.
 - 10a. Stems glabrous to sparsely pubescent toward the base, becoming densely pubescent toward flowering branches. ***Solidago canadensis* var. *canadensis***
 - 10b. Stems pubescent throughout. ***Solidago canadensis* var. *hageri***
 - 7b. Leaf veins various, but not with 3 long, parallel-veins.
 - 11a. Stems glabrous or thinly pubescent below the inflorescence.
 - 12a. Basal, lower and mid-stem leaves sheathing stems.
 - 13a. Leaves lanceolate, fleshy (succulent); margins entire. Plants of coastal beaches and salt marshes. (Introduced to some inland highways.) ***Solidago sempervirens***
 - 13b. Leaves oblanceolate, not fleshy; lower stem leaves with toothed margins; mid- to upper leaves becoming entire. Plants of wetlands, but not principally coastal. ***Solidago uliginosa* (in part)**

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- 12b. Basal and stem leaves not sheathing stems.
 - 14a. Lowermost stem leaves typically persistent at flowering. Basal leaves sometimes persistent at flowering.
 - 15a. Basal and lowermost stem leaves oblanceolate, Flowering branches glabrous or with scattered hairs. ***Solidago juncea***
 - 15b. Basal and lowermost stem leaves ovate to nearly round. Flowering branches pubescent.
 - 16a. Stems angular in cross-section. Leaf surfaces scabrous (sandpapery). Plants of low, wet habitats. ***Solidago patula***
 - 16b. Stems round in cross-section. Leaf surfaces not scabrous (\pm smooth). Plants of upland woods and clearings. ***Solidago arguta***
 - 14b. Basal and lowermost stem leaves deciduous at flowering.
 - 17a. Mid- to upper stem leaves lanceolate, densely dotted with sunken glands. Fragrant when injured. ***Solidago odora***
 - 17b. Mid- to upper stem leaves ovate, elliptic or broadly oblanceolate, not glandular, not fragrant.
 - 18a. Leaves feather-veined. Overall inflorescence relatively broad; flowering branches widely spaced; often long, spreading and/or recurved.
 - 19a. Lowermost stem leaves with broad winged petioles; leaves pubescent. ***Solidago ulmifolia***
 - 19b. Lowermost stem leaves lacking petioles or with inconspicuous, short petioles; leaves glabrous. ***Solidago rugosa* var. *sphagnophila***
 - 18a. Leaves network-veined. Overall inflorescence narrowly pyramidal in outline; branches more numerous and closely-spaced, relatively short, not conspicuously spreading. ***Solidago latissimifolia***
- 11b. Stems densely pubescent throughout.
 - 20a. Lowermost stem leaves typically persistent at flowering. Basal leaves sometimes also persistent at flowering. Stem leaves becoming progressively smaller upwards, often subtending axillary tufts of leaflets. Stems tufted. Plants not colonial or from creeping rhizomes. Herbage gray-green. ***Solidago nemoralis***
 - 20b. Basal and lowermost stem leaves deciduous at flowering. Stem leaves becoming only slightly smaller upwards, if at all; not regularly subtending axillary tufts of leaflets. Stems from long creeping rhizomes (not tufted); plants often forming colonies of close-spaced stems. Herbage green.
 - 21a. Leaves thick and firm; often strongly rugose, finely toothed to entire; tips acute. ***Solidago rugosa* ssp. *aspera***
 - 21a. Leaves thinner, less firm; only slightly rugose, often sharply toothed; tips typically long-pointed. ***Solidago rugosa* ssp. *rugosa***

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- 6b. Heads not secund (except sometimes *S. caesia*). Overall inflorescence club-shaped, wand-shaped or narrowly panicle-like, with relatively short, erect or ascending, *straight* branches.
- 22a. Rays white. Disc florets yellowish-white. ***Solidago bicolor*** (in part)
- 22b. Rays and disc florets yellow.
- 23a. Lower stem leaves and at least some basal leaves typically present at flowering. Stem leaves becoming \pm progressively smaller upwards
- 24a. Stems densely pubescent throughout.
- 25a. Stem and leaf hairs densely puberulent. ***Solidago puberula***
- 25b. Stem and leaf hairs longer, spreading and/or curved (conspicuous).
- 26a. Rays and disc florets pale yellow. Involucral bract green zones clearly delineated (in life). ***Solidago bicolor*** (in part)
- 26b. Rays and disc florets bright yellow. Involucral bract green zones indistinct (in life). ***Solidago hispida***
- 24b. Stems glabrous or glabrate below the inflorescence branches.
- 27a. Tips of involucral bracts abruptly recurved (squamose). ***Solidago squarrosa***
- 27b. Involucral bracts appressed, neither spreading nor recurved.
- 28a. Lower to mid-stem leaves sheathing. ***Solidago uliginosa*** (in part)
- 28b. Stem leaves not sheathing.
- 29a. Involucral bracts resinous.
- 30a. Basal leaves oblanceolate, lance-ovate to ovate, long winged-petiolate, or spatulate; apices obtuse. Peduncles 1-4 mm. Plants of sub-alpine outcrops and ledges. ***Solidago randii***
- 30b. Basal leaves narrowly oblanceolate to narrowly spatulate; apices acute. Peduncles 5-15 mm. Plants of calcareous outcrops and ledges along rivers. ***Solidago racemosa***
- 29b. Involucral bracts not resinous.
- 31a. Upper stems puberulent (hairs extremely short and straight). ***Solidago erecta***
- 31b. Upper stems with curved and/or appressed hairs.
- 32a. Mid- to upper stem leaves ovate to narrowly ovate or elliptic, short, winged petiolate. Plants of lower elevations. ***Solidago speciosa***
- 32b. Mid- to upper leaves oblanceolate, sessile. Plants of subalpine slopes and summits. ***Solidago leiocarpa***

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- 23b. Basal and lower stem leaves often deciduous at flowering. Mid- to upper stem leaves not, or scarcely reduced in size upwards. Heads typically growing in axillary clusters or on very short branches.
 - 33a. Stems straight or arching, blue-gray glaucous. Leaves narrowly lanceolate, sessile; apices long acuminate. ***Solidago caesia***
 - 33b. Stems straight or flexuous, not glaucous, not arching. Stem leaves lance-ovate, broadly ovate or nearly round, tapering abruptly to winged petioles; apices acute or acuminate.
 - 34a. Stems flexuous, at least within the inflorescence. Involucres shorter than 8 mm. Rays 1-5 per head. ***Solidago flexicaulis***
 - 34b. Stems straight. Involucres greater than 9 mm. Rays 7-13 per head. ***Solidago macrophylla***