

## False baby's breath

### *Galium mollugo*

#### Description

Short, leafy offshoots produced in summer to fall.

#### Habit

More or less erect perennial; 12-48 in tall forb; many weak branches rising from a curving base.

#### Leaves

Whorls of 6 or 8, widest above the middle, oblong.

#### Stems

Weak; erect; upright.

#### Flowers

White in color, 4-parted, 1/8 in wide, stalks usually longer than the flower is wide, inflorescence is a many-flowered, terminal, showy, often widely-branched cluster.

#### Fruits and Seeds

Smooth seeds, viable for about a year, dispersed via birds, sheep, water and contaminated crop seeds.





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### **Habitat**

Found in frequently-mowed hay fields of low soil fertility and low pH; prefers calcium-rich, neutral soils.

### **Reproduction**

By seed.

### **Similar**

Northern bedstraw (*Galium boreale*) and Stickywilly (*Galium aparine*).

### **Monitoring and Rapid Response**

Mowing and herbicides.

### **Credits**

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