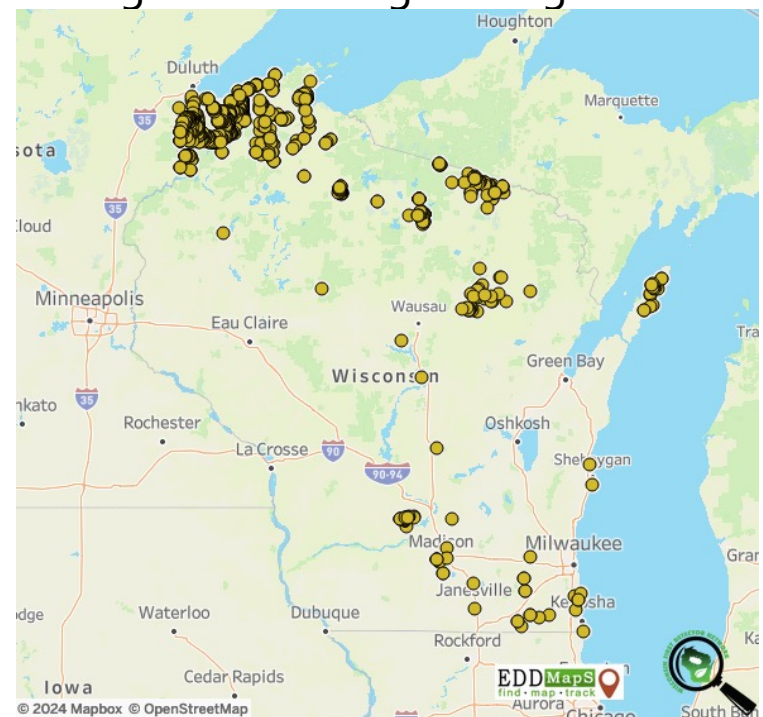


Garden valerian (*Valeriana officinalis*)



2011 © Peter M. Dziuk

- Tall, fragrant herb with opposite, pinnately compound leaves and white flowers
- Habitats it invades:
 - Forests
 - Wetlands
 - Roadsides
- Status
 - Wisconsin: Restricted
 - Not regulated in neighboring states





Garden valerian (*Valeriana officinalis*)

Leaves opposite, pinnately compound

- Leaves 8" long with 7-12 pairs of leaflets
- Leaflet margins coarsely toothed
- Fragrant foliage



Garden valerian (*Valeriana officinalis*)



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Flower/fruit

- Flowers are small, with 5 fused, white petals
- Flowers borne in dense, terminal clusters; July-Oct.
- Fruit is small, brown, with a crown of feathery hairs



Garden valerian look alike



Garden valerian could be confused with native and non-native, white-flowered members of the carrot family (Apiaceae) but those plants have **alternate** leaves.

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2004 © Peter M. Dziuk

Garden valerian could also be confused with **native** elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*) which also has opposite, pinnately compound leaves. However, elderberry is a **shrub**, its leaves are **not** **fragrant**, and its fruit is a **berry**.