

Global Distribution: Endemic to coastal British Columbia and Southeast Alaska.

Alaska Distribution: Coastal Rainforests.

Ecoregions Occupied: Alexander Archipelago (Dall Island, southern Prince of Wales Island); not known from Kodiak Island.¹²⁰

Conservation Status: S2 G3G4; USFS Sensitive.



Description^{106, 121, 122, 123}

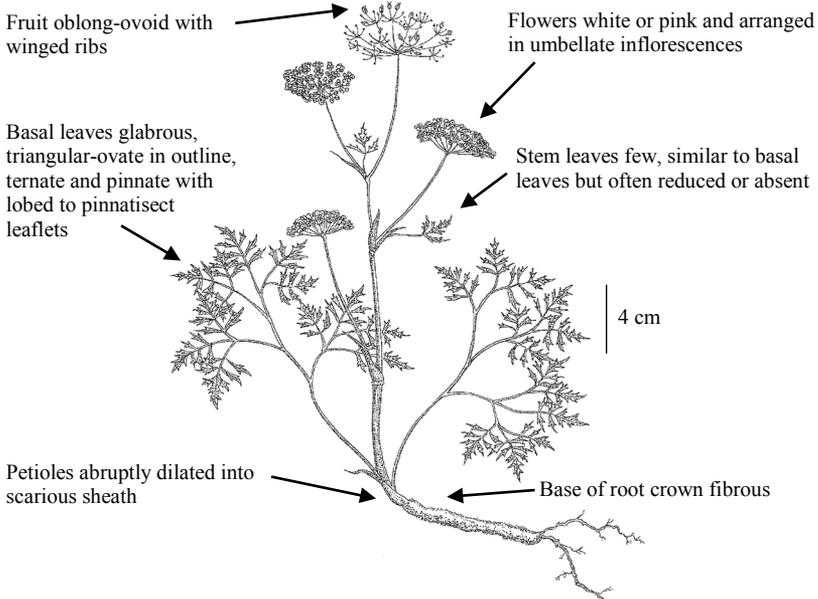


Illustration by Donald Gumm, courtesy of Province of British Columbia

Ligusticum calderi

- General:** Perennial herb from taproot; root crowns fibrous; stems 20 to 70 cm tall.
- Leaves:** Petioles 3 to 25 cm long, abruptly dilated into scarious sheaths, often purplish at base; leaves mostly basal, glabrous, triangular-ovate in outline, 5 to 20 cm long, ternate and once or twice pinnate; leaflets 1 to 4 cm long, pinnately lobed to pinnatisect with linear to lanceolate ultimate divisions; stem leaves few, reduced
- Flowers:** Terminal peduncle 5 to 30 cm long; lateral peduncles 1 to 3, smaller; umbels compound with 5 to 14 compact heads; umbel rays 1 to 4 cm long; pedicels 6 to 10 mm long; flowers white or pink with oval to oblanceolate petals.
- Fruits:** Fruits oblong to elliptic, 4 to 6 mm long, glabrous with narrowly winged ribs.



ALA 145640

Ecology

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| Elevation: | Known from near sea level to 680 m in Alaska; near sea level to 1,000 m in British Columbia. |
| Landform: | Alpine and subalpine slopes, cliffs. |
| Soil Type: | Exposed rock, scree; often associated with calcareous substrates. ⁶⁰ |
| Moisture regime: | Wet to moist. |
| Slope: | Gentle to steep slopes. |
| Aspect: | No particular aspect. |
| Vegetation type: | Open mixed conifer forest, herbaceous meadows, windswept plant communities, heath; also in bogs on Haida Gwaii (Queen Charlotte Islands). |
| Associated species: | <i>Carex macrochaeta</i> , <i>Dryopteris expansa</i> , <i>Elliottia pyroliflora</i> , <i>Listera cordata</i> , <i>Lupinus nootkatensis</i> , <i>Diphasiastrum alpinum</i> , <i>Pedicularis lanata</i> , <i>Polystichum munitum</i> , <i>Polystichum setigerum</i> , <i>Senecio triangularis</i> , <i>Thelypteris quelpaertensis</i> , <i>Triantha occidentalis</i> , <i>Veratrum viride</i> . |
| Longevity: | Moderately long-lived perennial, as indicated by the numerous fibrous remains of leaf sheaths at base. |
| Phenology: | Flowering early July, probably sooner. |
| Population estimate: | There are 15 known occurrences in Alaska; locally common on Haida Gwaii (Queen Charlotte Islands). |

Similar Species^{106, 121, 122, 123}

The table below describes the differences in morphology and habitat between *Conioselinum pacificum* and *Ligusticum calderi*, both of which occur in Southeast Alaska and are easily confused. The two species can occur in close proximity where their habitats overlap. *Ligusticum scoticum* also occurs in Southeast Alaska but is not likely to be confused with *Ligusticum calderi* because its leaves are twice ternately divided. Reports of *Ligusticum calderi* from Kodiak Island¹²² are based on a misidentified specimen of *Conioselinum pacificum*.¹²⁰

| Species | Root Crown | Leaves | Inflorescences | Fruits | Habitat |
|-------------------------------|------------|---|--|------------------------------------|---|
| <i>Ligusticum calderi</i> | Fibrous | Leaves ternate or pinnate with pinnatisect leaflets | Compound umbels with white flowers | Oblong to elliptic; 4 to 6 mm long | Alpine and subalpine slopes and cliffs |
| <i>Conioselinum pacificum</i> | Scale-like | 2 to 4 times pinnately dissected with | 1 or more compound umbels with white flowers | Oblong to oval; 5 to 8.5 mm long | Generally sea shores, low elevation slopes and cliffs |

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