



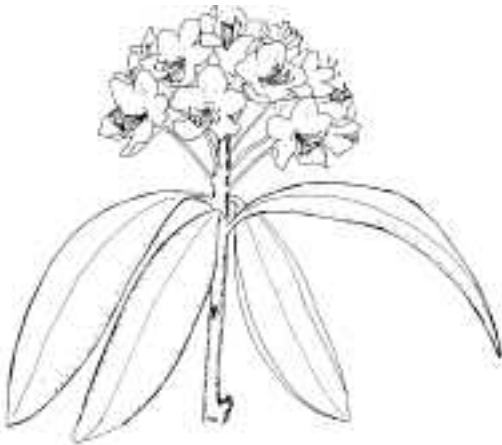
ROSEBAY RHODODENDRON

Rhododendron maximum L.

Rosebay rhododendron, or great laurel, is a shrub or straggling tree up to 30 feet high. It is a very rare species found locally in parts of Somerset, Franklin, Cumberland and

York counties in damp woods or near pond margins. It is listed as a threatened species in Maine.

The **leaves** are evergreen, ovate to oblong, alternate, entire, 4–8 inches long, thick and leathery, with the margin frequently rolled under. They are smooth and dark green above, pale below. The **flowers** are bell-shaped and occur in dense clusters. They are generally white with a pinkish tinge with other variations possible. The **fruit** is an oblong, woody capsule covered with sticky hairs. It is borne terminally in erect clusters on stalks several times longer than the capsule. The **twigs** are hairy.



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AREA OF OCCURRENCE

