



Wolf Claw Clubmoss



Cones on Wolf Claw Clubmoss

Wolf Claw Clubmoss

Running Clubmoss  
Running Pine Clubmoss  
Common Clubmoss  
Stag Horn Clubmoss

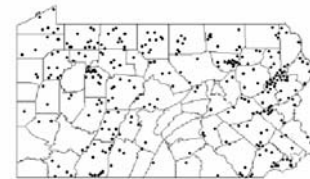
**Characteristics:** Horizontal stems at surface, evergreen, stems with 3-6 spreading branches; leaves yellow-green spirally arranged, spreading to ascending pale green, linear with tip extended into air 2.5-4 mm long; strobili on branched peduncles 8-15 cm long, simple or forked, bearing one or more slender cones.

**Habitat:** Open woods, grassy thickets, bog margins, or rocky barrens, likes subacid soil.

**North American Range:** Eastern Canada south to Virginia and east toward Kentucky and Minnesota.

**Remarks:** One of the key identifiers for this clubmoss is the 2-3 cone candelabra on a single 8-15cm peduncle. None of the similar clubmosses have this characteristic.

**Pennsylvania Range:**



*Lycopodium clavatum*

**(L.) Greville & Hooker**

*Lycopodium clavatum* Linnaeus  
*Lycopodium. clavatum v. laurentianum* Marie-Victoria  
*Lycopodium clavatum v. megastachyon* Fernald  
*Lycopodium clavatum v. subremotum* Marie-Vic

Occasionally colonies of this clubmoss are found supporting single cones and are referred to as *L. clavatum v. monostachyum* Desv. Spores of this species contain an oil that is highly flammable and the cones have been used for centuries in medicine, chemistry and for fireworks. This oil also makes the spores water resistant so they are often used as dressing powder in wounds. The species epithet, *clavatum*, was awarded this clubmoss in 1753 by Linnaeus who selected the name from the Latin word, *clavatus* meaning "a gradual thickening toward the distal end" and alluding to the club-shaped enlargement of the strobili. Wolf Claw Clubmoss is not easy to transplant; it tends to die before new roots are established.

**U.S. Range:**

