

**Table 9.1.** Summary table of Arctic vascular plant species and distribution by Arctic flora province and subzone based on Elven (2007). Arctic floristic provinces, subzones (A-E), neighbouring boreal or boreal-alpine zone (N) and distribution derived from Elven (2007).

Floristic province	Number of stabilized introduced species	Casual introduced species	Rare species	Species with a scattered distribution	Borderline species	Frequent species	Present, abundance unknown	Present, abundance likely rare	Present, frequency likely scattered or sparse	Species for which presence is uncertain	Total species number without uncertain occurrences	Mean species number per floristic province group
<b>European Russian-W Siberian</b>												
Kanin-Pechora	52	18	239	165	14	151	3	0	0	22	642	593
Polar Ural-Novaya Zemlya	32	8	209	228	5	137	6	0	0	24	625	
Yamal-Gydan	16	4	238	129	23	96	7	0	0	29	513	
<b>E Siberian</b>												
Taimyr-Severnaya Zemlya	23	16	310	121	35	136	4	0	0	38	645	
Anabar-Olenyok	1	0	200	144	14	67	2	0	1	37	429	516
Kharaulakh	14	3	184	118	13	223	3	0	0	20	558	
Yana-Kolyma	3	0	280	80	12	53	3	0	1	46	432	
<b>Beringian</b>												
W Chukotka	8	4	219	151	2	238	14	0	0	28	636	
Wrangel Island	0	1	89	76	0	145	4	0	0	16	315	
S Chukotka	7	2	236	146	9	136	13	0	0	33	549	621
E Chukotka	20	4	225	140	0	265	14	0	0	36	668	
W Alaska	20	14	316	212	50	210	3	0	0	27	825	
N Alaska-Yukon Territory	11	3	247	172	40	256	3	0	0	26	732	
<b>Canadian</b>												
Central Canada	8	3	303	157	30	137	2	0	0	36	640	536
Hudson Bay-Labrador	30	9	355	174	58	141	1	1	0	27	769	
Ellesmere Land-N Greenland	0	0	77	46	0	76	0	0	0	5	199	
<b>N Atlantic</b>												
W Greenland	50	26	144	174	0	159	1	0	0	18	554	
E Greenland	5	4	136	105	0	141	0	0	0	11	391	449
N Iceland-Jan Mayen	52	2	80	74	17	211	0	0	0	16	436	
N Fennoscandia	63	13	216	157	28	171	0	1	0	23	649	
Svalbard-Franz Joseph Land	4	32	53	47	0	79	0	0	0	10	215	
<b>Subzone</b>												
Arctic herb subzone	0	0	41	23	0	38	0	0	0	11	102	
N Arctic dwarf shrub subzone	0	0	91	39	0	90	0	0	0	18	220	
Middle Arctic dwarf shrub subzone	3	27	204	85	0	188	0	0	0	91	507	
S Arctic dwarf shrub subzone	18	10	349	213	0	389	1	0	0	65	980	
Arctic shrub subzone	101	0	868	392	136	681	2	0	0	4	2,180	
Non-Arctic - Boreal or Boreal-alpine	34	0	195	563	0	1,304	1	0	0	13	2,097	

species, nearly 4% of all Arctic species, occur in all five subzones. Although not analyzed here, there is no reason to doubt that circumpolar species account for 35% to over 80% of the species in local floras (Yurtsev 1994).

The Arctic flora is young and has its own distinct natural phytogeographic history (PAF). No single, predominantly Arctic vascular plant species is known to have gone extinct due to human activities in the last 250 years (PAF),

nor is the Arctic strongly influenced by invasive species. Unlike much of the rest of the world, the Arctic's native flora and plant communities are still intact (PAF).

### 9.2.3.6. Species richness in Arctic subzones

The five Arctic subzones strongly differ in species richness and species composition. There is a pronounced increase in the number of vascular plant species from the north-