

AGALINIS SKINNERIANA (Wood) Britt.
Skinner's-foxtglove

FAMILY: Scrophulariaceae

SYNONYMS: *Gerardia skinneriana* Wood

HABIT: Annual herb to 6 dm.; flowering July-September; fruiting September, October.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Very similar to other small purple foxgloves and easily misidentified. It is especially similar to *A. tenuifolia*, from which it is distinguished only with difficulty. Measurement of the flowers and careful examination of the venation of the calyx is required for accurate identification.

TOTAL RANGE: Sw. Ont. to s. WI, s. to n. OH, s. IN, s. IL, n. AR, and OK.

STATE RANGE: There are post-1980 collections from Lucas and Wood counties. There is a pre-1980 collection from Fulton County.

HABITAT: Dry to moist open situations, usually in sandy soil: open woods, moist thickets, bluffs, barrens, and prairies.

HAZARDS: Overshading by woody species as a result of succession.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, probably poor.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Mature flowering material is essential for identification; avoid over-collecting.

COMMENTS: This species is easily overlooked due to its small size and close resemblance to other more common purple foxgloves. It should be sought in suitable habitats throughout the state. It may be more frequent than the few records indicate.

Some authors lump the genus *Agalinis* and the related genera of *Aureolaria* and *Tomanthera* within the genus *Gerardia*. However, this treatment is not accepted by most recent authors.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Argus, G.W. and D.J. White. 1983. Atlas of the rare vascular plants of Ontario: Part 2. National Museums of Canada, Ottawa, Canada. n. p.

Bentz, G.D. and T.S. Cooperrider. 1978. The Scrophulariaceae subfamily Rhinanthoideae of Ohio. *Castanea* 43: 145-154.

Cusick, A.W. 1993. 1993 Status survey for Skinner's foxglove, *Agalinis skinneriana*, in Ohio. Unpublished report submitted to U.S. Dept. of Interior Fish & Wildlife Service. 15 pp.

Dieringer, G. 1999. Reproductive biology of *Agalinis skinneriana* (Scrophulariaceae), a threatened species. *Journal of Torrey Botanical Society* 126(4): 289-295.



Division of Natural Areas and Preserves
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Created: 11/1983 James Burns, Allison W. Cusick