

ARTEMISIA CAMPESTRIS L.
Beach Wormwood

FAMILY: Asteraceae (Compositae)

SYNONYMS: *Artemisia caudata* Michx.

HABIT: Erect, biennial herb, to 1 m; flowers Aug.-Sept., fruits Oct.

SIMILAR SPECIES: This species differs from other members of the genus *Artemisia* in Ohio by having sterile disk flowers with abortive ovaries.

TOTAL RANGE: Circumboreal; in North America s. to FL and AZ.

STATE RANGE: There are post-1980 records from Erie, Lucas and Ottawa Counties. There is one pre-1980 record from Ashtabula County. The species was introduced into sand piles in Cuyahoga County.

HABITAT: Dry, sandy habitats such as Lake Erie coastal dunes; dry and sandy prairies.

HAZARDS: Destruction of natural beach and dune habitats along Lake Erie. Overshadowing by woody species as a result of succession.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Poor due to the paucity of intact natural beach habitat remaining along the Lake Erie shoreline.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect complete flowering or fruiting specimens.

COMMENTS: *A. campestris* represents a circumboreal species complex of many races. Ohio material can be referred to as ssp. *caudata* (Michx.) Hall & Clem. which occurs on the Atlantic Coastal Plain and sporadically inland. A very closely related, unnamed race occurs in the northern Great Plains and eastward along the Great Lakes (Gleason and Cronquist 1991).

SELECTED REFERENCES:

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Division of Natural Areas and Preserves
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Created: 1/1983 James Burns, Allison W. Cusick
Revised: 10/1993 Greg Schneider