

BARBULA INDICA (Hook.) Spreng. In Steud. var. INDICA  
Twisted Teeth Moss

FAMILY: Pottiaceae

SYNONYMS: *Barbula cancellata* C. Mull.

CHARACTERS: Dull, small pale- or yellow-green plants (about 2-5 mm high) in dense clumps. Stems reddish. Leaves 1-2 mm long, ligulate-lanceolate to ovate-lanceolate, obtuse or rounded at the apex and usually minutely apiculate, somewhat revolute toward base, contorted when dry. Costa, with 2 sterid bands, ending in a small point. Very small dark- to rusty-red clavate multicellular brood bodies on branched stalks are common in the leaf axils.

SIMILAR SPECIES: *B. unguiculata* is similar, but rarely has axillary brood bodies. The leaves of *B. unguiculata* end in a strong apiculus. Both occur on calcareous substrates.

TOTAL RANGE: OH, IA, GA, FL, AR, MO, TX, AZ. Japan and Indonesia.

STATE RANGE: Post-1980 records from Adams, Erie and Hocking Counties.

STATE STATUS: 1996 to present: Added.

HABITAT: Calcareous soils in disturbed situations.

HAZARDS: Trampling of habitat.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, possibly good as the taxon tolerates disturbance.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect only a small sample of plants, preferably with sporophytes.

COMMENTS: This species is probably more widespread in Ohio than the records indicate. Members of the family Pottiaceae tend to superficially resemble each other. Careful examination of microscopic features is necessary for identification.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Crum, H.A. and L.E. Anderson. 1981. Mosses of Eastern North America. Volumes 1 & 2. Columbia University Press. NY. 1328 pp.

Osterbrock, A.J. and J.A. Snider. 1985. A checklist of the bryophytes of the Edge of Appalachia Preserve System, Adams County, Ohio. Ohio J. Sci. 85: 138-143.

Reese, W.D. 1984. Mosses of the Gulf South from Rio Grande to the Apalachicola. Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge, LA. 252 p.



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