

CAMPYLOSTELIUM SAXICOLA (Web. & Mohr.) BSG  
Rock-loving Swan-necked Moss

FAMILY:

HABIT: Very tiny (1-3 mm), perennial, rock-growing mosses that produce sinuous, curved (cygneous) sporophytes resembling the arching necks of swans.

SIMILAR SPECIES: This species, when lacking sporophytes, is very similar to *Rhabdoweisia crispate*, another rock-growing moss commonly occurring in sandstone gorges of southeastern Ohio. It can be separated from the latter most easily only with the use of microscopic characters.

TOTAL RANGE: N.S., Prince Edward Island, NY, NJ, in the Appalachians to SC, inland to s. OH, KY, TN, AR, WA; also England, Scotland, central Europe, Japan.

STATE RANGE: Pre-1960 collections are from Gallia, Pickaway, Scioto, and Washington counties. One post-1960 record exists for Hocking County.

STATE STATUS: 1990-1991: Added, 1992 to present: Endangered.

HABITAT: On siliceous boulders and moist cliff ledges in gorges and ravines of hardwood forests.

HAZARDS: Removal of forest canopy shading rock exposures; drying of habitat.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, but as numerous sporophytes are generally produced, it is presumably good.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect complete specimens, including sporophyte, if available.

COMMENTS: This species, when sterile, can easily be confused with *Rhabdoweisia crispate*, which occupies identical habitats. The latter typically has broader, shorter leaves when viewed under slight magnification.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Crum, H.A. and L.E. Anderson. 1981. Mosses of Eastern North America. Two vols. Columbia University Press.

Ireland, R.R. 1982. Moss Flora of the Maritime Provinces Botany, No. 13.



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