

COLLEMA COCCOPHORUM Tuck.
Tar Jelly Lichen

FAMILY: Collemaceae

SYNONYMS: *C. novomexicanum*, *C. dubium*

HABIT: This species is a tiny, gelatinous (has a blue-green alga as the phycobiont), foliose lichen. Color, due to the blue-green alga, is olive-black.

SIMILAR SPECIES: *C. tenax* and *C. bachmanianum* are similar soil species. This is a difficult genus and these species should be determined by an expert.

TOTAL RANGE: Widely distributed in the U.S.

STATE RANGE: Known only from Adams County, first collected in 1913 by Bruce Fink. Extant populations at Buzzardroost Rock and Lynx Prairie.

STATE STATUS: 1992-1993 Added, 1994 to present: Endangered.

HABITAT: Soil in limestone regions or occasionally moss over limestone. Found at Lynx Prairie on dolomitic soil in prairie openings.

HAZARDS: Closing of forest canopy, habitat destruction.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect thalli with apothecia. Stabilize soil with diluted white glue. Store in paper herbarium packets.

COMMENTS: This small species is easily overlooked and may be present at other localities in the dolomite region of southwestern Ohio. A good population is present at Lynx Prairie.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Hale, M.E. 1979. How to know the lichens. Wm. C. Brown Company Publishers. Dubuque, Iowa. 246 pp.

Taylor, C.J. 1967. The lichens of Ohio. Part 1. Foliose lichens. Ohio Biological Survey Biological Notes No. 3.



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