

CARDAMINE DISSECTA (Leavenw.) Al-Shehbaz
Narrow-leaved Toothwort

FAMILY: Brassicaceae

SYNONYM: *Cardamine angustata* O.E. Schulz var. *multifida* (Muhl.) Ahles;
Dentaria multifida Muhl.

HABIT: Herbaceous perennial, 2-4 dm., with a fusiform rhizome; flowering March, April;
fruiting April-early May.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Some of the species of *Cardamine* are hard to distinguish and intermediates occur. Hybrids involving these species also occur. *C. dissecta* is most similar to *C. concatenata*, which has less dissected leaves and a pubescent rachis of the raceme. *C. dissecta* has a highly incised leaf and a glabrous rachis, but both of these characters can intergrade between these species.

TOTAL RANGE: c. OH and s. IN to n. GA and n. AL.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are from Adams, Athens, Delaware, Gallia, Morgan, Morrow, and Washington counties. Pre-1980 records are from Hamilton and Perry counties

HABITAT: Rich to disturbed woods and wooded stream terraces.

HAZARDS: Unknown.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Probably good. This species is known to grow in very disturbed situations.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect complete, mature flowering or fruiting material.

COMMENTS: This species may be more frequent than the records indicate due to its similarity with the common and highly variable *Cardamine concatenata*. Montgomery (1955) reports this species to be sexually sterile, but this may not be true in all situations. Plants should be observed throughout their life and records taken on seed set.
One population in Washington County appears to consist almost entirely of hybrids between *C. concatenata* and *C. diphylla*.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Easterly, N.W. 1964. Distribution patterns in Ohio Cruciferae. *Castanea* 29: 164-173.

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Long, R.W., Jr. 1956. *Dentaria multifida* in central Ohio. *Rhodora* 58: 160-161.

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