

CAREX HAYDENII Dewey  
Hayden's Sedge

FAMILY: Cyperaceae.

SYNONYM: *Carex stricta* Lam. var. *decora* Bailey

HABIT: Loosely tufted perennial from a short, upright rootstalk, fertile culms mostly solitary, 5-10 dm.; fruiting mid June-August.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Extremely similar to other members of this group, especially *Carex stricta*. Accurate determination is very difficult without underground parts. In general terms, the two species may be separated by the following characters: *C. haydenii*-perigynia obovoid, stolons short and ascending; *C. stricta*-perigynia ovate, stolons elongate and horizontal. *C. haydenii* also is easily confused with other tussock sedges, such as *C. aquatilis* and *C. emoryi*, from which it may be separated by characters of rootstalks and perigynia such as described above. Careful examination of complete material is necessary to accurately identify these species.

TOTAL RANGE: N.B. to MN, s. to NJ, PA, OH, IN, IL, MO, and NE.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): There are no post-1980 records. There are pre-1980 records from Erie, Henry, Lorain, Lucas, Muskingum, and Trumbull counties.

STATE STATUS: 1980-1987: Endangered, 1988 to present: Presumed Extirpated.

HABITAT: A variety of wet situations in full sun or semi-shade; streambanks, marshes, swales, swamp woods, meadows; more often found in shaded areas than other related sedges.

HAZARDS: Overgrowth by woody species through succession.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, possibly good due to its variety of habitat and rhizomatous habit.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect complete, mature specimens with underground parts.

COMMENTS: This species is easily misidentified and/or overlooked. It should be sought throughout northern Ohio.

*C. haydenii* has been treated by some authors as a variety of the closely related *C. stricta*. Under this concept, it becomes the var. *decora* (see Synonym). However, this treatment is not generally followed by most recent authors.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Argus, G.W. and D.J. White. 1982. Atlas of the rare vascular plants of Ontario: Part 1. National Museums of Canada, Ottawa, Canada. n.p.

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