

CAREX STYLOFLEXA Buckley
Lowland Wood Sedge

FAMILY: Cyperaceae.

HABITAT: Densely tufted perennial from elongate rhizomes; sterile culms to 4 dm., fertile culms to 8 dm.; fruiting May.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Similar to a number of species in the section *Laxiflorae*. Distinguished by the following combination of characters: obtusely angled perigynia with a straight beak, lowest pistillate spike on a capillary peduncle, and perigynia closely overlapping. Grows in wetter habitats than most similar species.

TOTAL RANGE: Along the Atlantic and Gulf coastal plains from New York to Florida and Texas, north locally in the interior to Indiana and Ohio. Range map in Bryson, 1980.

STATE RANGE: Known from a single collection: Jackson Co., Liberty Twp., 15 May 1936, F. Bartley & L. Pontius s.n. (NY).

STATE STATUS: 1988 to present: Presumed Extirpated.

HABITAT: Moist to wet deciduous woodlands, springheads, and seeps; often in deep shade; occasionally on stream terraces.

HAZARDS: Unknown, possibly clearing of forest canopy.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect complete specimens with both sterile and fertile culms. Estimate aerial extent of suitable habitat in square feet.

COMMENTS: This species can easily be overlooked or misidentified. Distinguishing this species from similar sedges in the section *Laxiflorae* requires close examination of small characters. Lowland Wood Sedge should be sought throughout southeast Ohio. It is a good chance that populations are extant and simply have been overlooked.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Bryson, C.T. 1980. A revision of the North American *Carex* section *Laxiflorae*. Ph.D. Diss., Mississippi State Univ. ix + 191 p.

Radford, A.E., H.E. Ahles, and C.R. Bell. 1968. Manual of the vascular flora of the Carolinas. Univ. of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, NC. 1183 p.



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