

CAREX TENUIFLORA Wahlenb.  
Thin-flowered Sedge

FAMILY: Cyperaceae

HABIT: Loosely tufted perennial with long, slender rhizome, 2-6 dm; flowers and fruits May-June.

SIMILAR SPECIES: This species resembles the other members of *Carex* section *Helonastes* in Ohio: *C. brunnescens*, *C. canescens*, *C. disperma* and *C. trisperma*. *C. tenuiflora* can be distinguished by the combination of the following characters: perigynia nearly beakless and slender nerved, pistillate scales white hyaline, rootstalks loosely cespitose and with slender stolons, spikes aggregated into ovoid terminal head.

TOTAL RANGE: Circumboreal; in North America s. to ME, NY, MI and MN.

STATE RANGE: There is an 1896 record from Stark County.

STATE STATUS: 1990 to present: Presumed Extirpated.

HABITAT: Bogs and wet woods.

HAZARDS: Destruction of habitat by draining, or filling bogs; overgrowth of habitat by woody species as a result of succession.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Preservation and management of bogs in northeastern Ohio will protect the habitat of this species.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect specimens with mature perigynia and underground parts.

COMMENTS: This species flowers early and typically grows intermixed with other, similar species. It could yet be extant in bogs in northeastern Ohio.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Braun, E.L. 1967. The Monocotyledoneae [of Ohio]: Cat-tails to orchids. The Ohio State Univ. Press, Columbus OH. 464 pp.

Mackenzie, K.K. 1931-35. Cariceae. In North American Flora 18: 1-478.

Voss, E.G. 1972. Michigan Flora, Part I. Gymnosperms and monocots. Cranbrook Inst. Sci. Bull. 59, Bloomfield Hills, MI. 488 pp.



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