

CHIMAPHILA UMBELLATA (L.) Bart.
Pipsissewa

FAMILY: Pyrolaceae (Ericaceae).

HABIT: Low, evergreen shrub with creeping rhizome, 1-3 dm.; flowering July, August; fruiting August, September.

SIMILAR SPECIES: *Chimaphila umbellata* might possibly be confused with Spotted Wintergreen, *Chimaphila maculata*, which has green leaves striped with white. *Chimaphila umbellata* has solid green leaves.

TOTAL RANGE: Quebec and Nova Scotia to MN, s. to VA, WV, and n. IN.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): There are post-1980 records from Ashtabula, Columbiana, Fulton, Hocking, Jefferson, Lucas, Monroe, and Summit counties. Pre-1980 records are from Belmont, Fairfield, Geauga, Knox, Lake, Mahoning, Portage, Trumbull, and Wood counties. Braun (1961) indicates a record from Erie County.

HABITAT: Generally sandy, acidic soils in dry woods or pine woods.

HAZARDS: Unknown, possibly overshadowing by taller woody species as a result of succession.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Presumed poor due to the decline in number of reported populations.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: This plant usually grows in small, creeping clumps. When collecting, care should be taken not to disturb the creeping rhizome. Vegetative material can be identified but flowering or fruiting material is preferred.

COMMENTS: Although easily identified, this species may be overlooked due to its small size and midsummer blooming period. It should be sought throughout eastern and northern Ohio.

C. umbellata has been divided into 3 varieties (Blake, 1917). Plants of eastern America (including Ohio) are the var. *cisatlantica*. The var. *occidentalis* occurs in northwestern America and the typical variety occurs in Eurasia.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Blake, S.F. 1917. The varieties of *Chimaphila umbellata*. *Rhodora* 19: 237-244.

Braun, E.L. 1961. The woody plants of Ohio. The Ohio State University Press, Columbus, OH. 362 p.

Gleason, H.A., and A. Cronquist. 1991. Manual of vascular plants of northeastern United States and adjacent Canada. New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, New York. 910 pp.

Soper, J.H. and M.L. Heimberger. 1982. Shrubs of Ontario. Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Canada. 495 p.



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