

CLINTONIA BOREALIS (Ait.) Raf.
Bluebead-lily

FAMILY: Liliaceae.

HABIT: Tufted, herbaceous perennial from a short rhizome, flowering scape 1.5-4 dm.; flowering mid May-early June; fruiting June, July.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Similar to *Clintonia umbellulata* from which it can be distinguished by the following characters: *C. borealis*--flowers greenish-yellow, berry blue; *C. umbellulata*--flowers white, speckled, berry black. Non-flowering rosettes are similar to various monocots, but are distinctive in having leaves with ciliate margins.

TOTAL RANGE: Labrador and Newfoundland to Manitoba and MN, s. to NJ, PA, and n. IN, and in the mountains to NC and TN.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): There are post-1980 records from Ashtabula County. There is a pre-1980 record from Lake County.

HABITAT: A variety of wet woods and thickets, often in deep shade; hemlock and tamarack woods, alder thickets, hummocks in swamp woods.

HAZARDS: Opening of forest canopy.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, probably poor.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect flowering or fruiting material only; avoid over-collecting.

COMMENTS: This conspicuous wildflower seems to be restricted in Ohio to a very limited section of the state. Its state range probably is accurately known. When in bloom or fruit, it is not likely to be overlooked. Known from a single population in Ashtabula County, still extant as of 1988.

A hybrid of this species with *C. umbellulata* has been reported from WV.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

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.

Utech, F.H. 1975. Biosystematic studies on *Clintonia* (Liliaceae- Polygonatae). III. Cytogeography, chromosome number and morphology of the North American species of *Clintonia* Raf. Cytologia 40: 765-786.

Voss, E.G. 1972. Michigan flora, Part I, Gymnosperms and monocots. Cranbrook Inst. of Sci. Bull. 55, Bloomfield Hills, MI. 488 p.



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