

CLINTONIA UMBELLULATA (Michx.) Morong  
Speckled Wood-lily

FAMILY: Liliaceae.

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

SIMILAR SPECIES: Similar to *Clintonia borealis* 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: c. NY and e. OH, to NC, TN, and n. GA.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are from Columbiana, Holmes, Jefferson, Mahoning, Summit, and Trumbull counties. Pre-1980 records are from Ashland, Coshocton, Fairfield, Harrison, Hocking, Jackson, Portage, Tuscarawas, Washington, and Wayne counties.

HABITAT: A variety of mature, mesic woods, often with hemlocks; tolerant of deep shade; ravines, slopes.

HAZARDS: Opening of forest canopy; digging of plants by wildflower gardeners.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, probably poor.

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

COMMENTS: There are definitely fewer populations of this species in the state today than just 40 years ago and some post-1980 records may no longer be extant. Apparently it does not tolerate habitat disturbance. It should be sought throughout eastern Ohio in mature moist woods. When in bloom or fruit, this attractive wildflower is not likely to be overlooked.

A hybrid of this species with *C. borealis* 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 in *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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