

CORYDALIS SEMPERVIRENS (L.) Pers.
Rock-harlequin

FAMILY: Fumariaceae (Papaveraceae).

HABIT: Herbaceous annual or biennial, 0.1-1.3 m.; flowering late May- mid June; fruiting June, July.

SIMILAR SPECIES: When in bloom, it is very distinctive. Non-flowering specimens resemble other species of *Corydalis* or *Fumaria*.

TOTAL RANGE: Nfld. to AK, s. to NY, PA, n. IN, MN, MT, and British Columbia, and along the mountains to GA.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are from Athens, Carroll, Columbiana, Geauga, Hocking, Holmes, Lake, Lucas, Portage, Richland, Summit, and Tuscarawas counties. Pre-1980 records are from Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Fairfield, Knox, Licking, Lorain, Mahoning, Muskingum, and Van Wert counties.

HABITAT: In full sun or semi-shade in a variety of well-drained openings and clearings; often on sandstone exposures; usually found on slightly acidic substrates.

HAZARDS: Overshading by growth of woody species; trampling and compaction of soil; over-collecting.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, but probably good; it grows well in cultivation and can withstand moderate disturbance.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Due to the small size of Ohio populations and to its annual habit, over-collecting should be avoided. Flowers or fruits are necessary for identification. If possible, take only a portion of the plant with some flowers or fruits and leave a portion of the plant undisturbed.

COMMENTS: Extant Ohio populations are very small, often only 3-5 plants. It would be very easy to eliminate them. The species may not be present any longer at some sites. Careful searching may locate other populations in the northern and eastern sections of the state. The flowers are most distinctive, but the delicate plant is not very conspicuous in the field.

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.

Mitchell, R.S. 1983. Berberidaceae through Fumariaceae of New York State. New York State Museum Bull. 451. 66 p.

Ownbey, G.B. 1947. A monograph of the North American species of *Corydalis*. Ann. Mo. Bot. Garden 34: 187-259.



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