

CRATAEGUS BRAINERDII Sargent
Brainerd's Hawthorn

FAMILY: Rosaceae

SYNONYMS: *Crataegus brainerdii* Sargent var. *brainerdii*; *Crataegus brainerdii* Sargent var. *scabrada* (Sargent) Egglest; *Crataegus coleae* Sargent; *Crataegus scabrada* Sargent

HABIT: Deciduous shrub or small tree to 8 m: flowers May-June, fruits October.

SIMILAR SPECIES: It is extremely difficult to accurately identify most members of the genus. All are superficially similar and can only be determined by close examination of flower and fruit, or leaf and branch characters.

TOTAL RANGE: Que. and N.E., s. and w. to NC, OH and MI.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): There is a 1915 record for this species from Richland County. Braun (1961) and Palmer (1956) also list this species from Lucas County although no specimens are currently located in any Ohio herbaria. Roberts and Cooperrider (1982) place the species in Auglaize and Mahoning Counties. These reports are probably based on Palmer's report of *Crataegus coleae* which is now usually included within a larger species concept of *C. brainerdii*. However, no specimens of *C. coleae* could be located in Ohio herbaria.

HABITAT: Well-drained openings, thickets, pastures, woodland borders.

HAZARDS: Unknown, possibly overgrowth by taller trees as a result of succession.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, but possibly good. Hawthorns are difficult to identify and careful surveys may locate new populations in the state.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect mature specimens with flowers or fruits; note growth habit.

COMMENTS: The genus *Crataegus* has not been extensively studied in Ohio since Palmer (1956). Many botanists neglect the genus because of the notorious difficulty in identifying plants to species. *C. brainerdii* may well be overlooked in Ohio and should be sought throughout the state.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

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

Kruschke, E.P. 1965. Contributions to the taxonomy of *Crataegus*. Milwaukee Public Mus. Public. Bot. No. 3. 273 p.

Palmer, E.J. 1956. *Crataegus* in Ohio with a description of one new species. Ohio J. Sci. 56: 205-2216.

Roberts, M.L. and T.S. Cooperrider. 1982. Dicotyledons. In Cooperrider, T.S., ed. Endangered and threatened plants of Ohio. Ohio Biol. Surv. Biol. Notes No. 16: 48-84.

Voss, E.G. 1985. Michigan Flora, Part II. Dicots (Saururaceae-Cornaceae). Cranbrook Inst. Sci. Bull. 59, Bloomfield Hills, MI. 724 pp.



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