

## *Cyperus diandrus* Torr.

Low Umbrella-sedge



**Family:** Cyperaceae

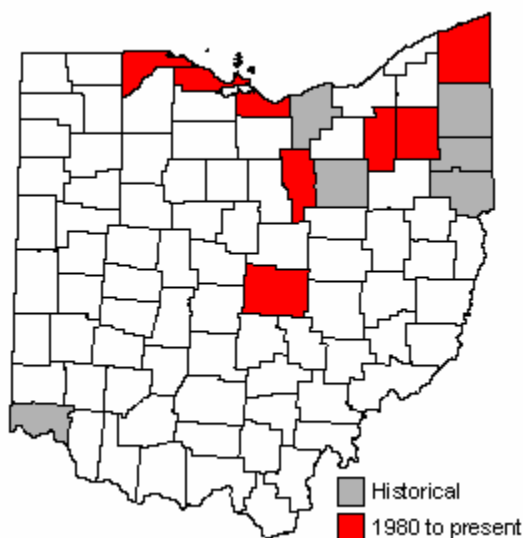
**Synonyms:** *Pycreus diander* (Torr.) C. B. Clarke

**Description:** Cespitose annual with fibrous roots; culms trigonous, up to 25+ cm tall; scales ovate and reddish; achenes lenticular, 1-1.3 mm long with a persistent style.

**Flowering:** Late June to September

**Fruiting:** July to October

**Similar Species:** Resembles other flat sedges such as *Cyperus bipartitus* and *C. flavescens*; however, *C. diandrus* is notable in its persistent, exerted styles and reddish scales.



**Total Range:** USA: CT, DE, IL, IN, IA, MA, ME, MD, MI, MN, MO, NE, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, VA, VT; CAN: NB, NS, ON, QC.

**Ohio Range:** Ashland, Ashtabula, Columbiana, Erie, Hamilton, Licking, Lorain, Mahoning, Ottawa, Portage, Summit, and Trumbull counties. Braun (1967) also reports it from Defiance County. There is a dubious record from Lake County.

**Ohio Status:** [www.ohiodnr.com/dnap](http://www.ohiodnr.com/dnap)

**Habitats:** A variety of wet, open situations such as shores, beaches, mudflats and pond margins.

**Threats:** Threatened by invasive species such as *Lythrum salicaria*, *Phalaris arundinacea*, and *Phragmites australis* subsp. *australis*; changes in hydrology and overgrowth by woody species.

**Conservation Potential:** There are a number of populations on conserved land of which some number in the 100s of plants.

**Inventory Guidelines:** Collect flowering/fruitlet material.

**Comments:** *Cyperus diandrus* often grows on exposed muck or mud flats in association with *Cyperus erythrorhizos*, *C. bipartitus*, *C. odoratus*, *Eleocharis intermedia*, *E. obtusa*, *Lindernia dubia*, and other annuals. This species has a seedbank and responds favorably to disturbance.

This species is more conspicuous than most umbrella-sedges when in bloom. Thus, it is less likely than most *Cyperus* to be overlooked. It should be sought throughout northern Ohio.

### **Selected References:**

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Yatskievych, G. 1999. Steyermark's Flora of Missouri. Vol. 1. The Missouri Botanical Garden Press, St. Louis Missouri. xii + 991 pp.



### **Ohio Natural Heritage Program**

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