

DRABA BRACHYCARPA Nutt.  
Little Whitlow-grass

FAMILY: Brassicaceae

HABIT: Annual or winter-annual to 2 dm.; flowering March, April; fruiting April.

SIMILAR SPECIES: *Draba brachycarpa* can be distinguished from other members of this genus in Ohio by its very short fruits, commonly only 2-4 mm. long.

TOTAL RANGE: VA to IN and KS, s. to FL and TX.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are from Adams and Lawrence counties. There is a pre-1980 record from Highland County.

HABITAT: Dry, open situations, usually in sandy soil: fields, pastures, open woods, roadsides, and waste ground.

HAZARDS: Overshading by woody species as a result of succession; soil compaction.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Probably good due to its tolerance of disturbance.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Mature fruiting material is needed for positive identification; avoid over-collecting.

COMMENTS: This species could well be more frequent in Ohio than current records indicate. It is easily misidentified and could be overlooked due to its small size, weedy appearance, and occurrence in disturbed habitats. Its blooming period is very early and quite brief. It should be sought throughout southern Ohio.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Easterly, N.W. 1964. Distribution patterns of Ohio Cruciferae. *Castanea* 29: 164-173.

Fernald, M.L. 1934. *Draba* in temperate northeastern America. *Rhodora* 36: 241-261, 285-305, 314-343, 353-371, 392-404.

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.



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