

DRABA REPTANS (Lam.) Fern.
Carolina Whitlow-grass

FAMILY: Brassicaceae

HABIT: Annual or winter-annual to 15 cm.; flowering April, May; fruiting May.

SIMILAR SPECIES: *Draba reptans* slightly resembles *Draba cuneifolia*. *D. reptans* has entire leaves, whereas *D. cuneifolia* has coarsely dentate leaves. The members of this genus are ultimately identified by fruit characters.

TOTAL RANGE: MA and RI to s. Ont. and MN and WA, s. to NC, GA, and CA.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are from Adams, Erie, Montgomery, and Ottawa counties. Pre-1980 records are from Butler, Clark, Greene, Hamilton, Licking, Lucas, and Ross counties. The Hamilton County specimens may actually be from Butler County.

HABITAT: Dry, open situations, usually in sandy soil: ledges, fields, pastures, dunes, waste places, and roadsides.

HAZARDS: Overshading by woody species as a result of succession; rock climbing.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, but possibly good due to its tolerance of disturbance.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Mature fruiting material is needed for positive identification.

COMMENTS: This species may be more frequent in Ohio than current records indicate. It could easily be overlooked due to its small size, weedy appearance, and occurrence in disturbed habitats. It should be sought throughout western Ohio. Some authors divide this species into two varieties. Under this treatment, Ohio plants are the typical variety. Var. *micrantha* (Nutt.) Fern. occurs to the west of 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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