

ELEOCHARIS WOLFII Gray
Wolf's Spike-rush

FAMILY: Cyperaceae

HABIT: Herbaceous perennial, 1.5-3 dm., from a slender, creeping rhizome; fruiting May-July.

SIMILAR SPECIES: This species is similar to other rhizomatous spike-rushes with flattened culms, such as *E. compressa* and *E. rostellata* and can be distinguished from them by fruit characters. *Eleocharis wolfii* differs from *E. rostellata* by having the tubercle being differentiated from the achene. The fruit of *E. compressa* lack the 6-10 longitudinal ridges of *E. wolfii*.

TOTAL RANGE: IN to Alta., s. to LA and CO; NY.

STATE RANGE: There are post-1980 records from Jackson County. There is a 1945 collection from Ross County.

HABITAT: Moist, open areas; pond margins, fields.

HAZARDS: Overgrowth by woody species through succession; soil compaction.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, but probably poor.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect mature, fruiting specimens with underground parts.

COMMENTS: This species is rare and local throughout its total range. It is easily overlooked and/or misidentified. This species should be sought throughout southern Ohio.

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.

Svenson, H.K. 1957. Scirpeae (continuatio). N. Am. Flora 18: 509-540.

Yatskievych, G. 1999. Steyermark's Flora of Missouri Volume 1. Missouri Botanical Garden Press, St. Louis, Missouri. 991 p.



Division of Natural Areas and Preserves
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Created: 1/1985 Allison W. Cusick
Revised: 12/2000 Richard Gardner