

HETERANTHERA RENIFORMIS R & P
Mud-Plantain

FAMILY: Pontederiaceae

HABIT: Submersed, floating or creeping aquatic herb; flowering August-October.

SIMILAR SPECIES: The distinctive kidney-shaped leaves of *Heteranthera reniformis* distinguish it from all other aquatic plants in Ohio.

TOTAL RANGE: CT and NY to MO, s. to trop. America.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are from Lawrence and Meigs counties.

HABITAT: Submersed or floating in ponds, ditches or rivers, or creeping on their muddy margins.

HAZARDS: Drainage or other disturbance of the aquatic habitat.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, but presumed good if planted in appropriate habitats.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect complete flowering specimens.

COMMENTS: It is possible that the damming of the Ohio River has created habitat suitable for this species as well as an avenue for the species to migrate into Ohio. It is likely that this species could become more common in Ohio in the future, especially on mudflats along the shore of the Ohio River.

The species was collected in Hamilton Co. in 1837 and was thought until recently to be extirpated from Ohio. However, the species was rediscovered in 1986 and is now known to grow along the banks of the Ohio River in Lawrence and Meigs Counties.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Braun, E.L. 1967. The Monocotyledonae of Ohio. Cat-tails to orchids. The Ohio State Univ. Press. Columbus, OH. 464 pp.

Deam, C.C. 1940. Flora of Indiana. Indiana Dept. Conserv., Indianapolis, IN. 1236 p.

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.

Radford, A.E., H.E. Ahles and C.R. Bell. 1968. Manual of the vascular flora of the Carolinas. Univ. of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill. 261 pp.

Steyermark, J.A. 1963. Flora of Missouri. The Iowa State University Press, Ames IA.
1728 pp.

Stuckey, R.L. and M.L. Roberts. 1982. Monocotyledons. In Cooperrider, T.S., ed.
Endangered and threatened plants of Ohio. Ohio Biol. Surv. Biol. Notes No. 16:
27-47.



Division of Natural Areas and Preserves
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Created: 3/1985 James Burns, Allison W. Cusick
Revised: 4/1994 Greg Schneider