

LATHYRUS OCHROLEUCUS Hook.  
Yellow Vetchling

FAMILY: Fabaceae

HABIT: Perennial herb to 1 m.; flowering May-July; fruiting July, August.

SIMILAR SPECIES: *Lathyrus ochroleucus* is the only native species of this genus with yellowish-white flowers, rather than purple flowers. It is also the only Ohio *Lathyrus* to occur in woodland habitats.

TOTAL RANGE: VT to Man. and nw. Canada, s. to PA, IL, IA, and WA.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): There are post-1980 records from Ashtabula, Defiance, Lake, Lorain, Trumbull, and Williams counties. Pre-1980 records are from Ashland, Cuyahoga, Lucas, and Ottawa counties.

HABITAT: Dry upland woods, thickets, wooded slopes, and rocky banks.

HAZARDS: Non-native invasive species.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Possibly good. It may be able to tolerate moderate disturbance.

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

COMMENTS: This species is easily identified and would be difficult to overlook due to the rather showy yellowish-white flowers. It should be sought throughout the state. There is a questionable record from Montgomery County.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Deam, C.C. 1940. Authorized reprint 1970. Flora of Indiana. Verlag Von J. Cramer, S-H Service Agency, New York, N.Y. 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.



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