

LECHEA INTERMEDIA Leggett
Round-fruited Pinweed

FAMILY: Cistaceae

HABIT: Suffruticose or herbaceous perennial, 2-6 dm.; flowering late June-July, fruiting late July-November.

SIMILAR SPECIES: *L. intermedia* resembles *L. leggettii*. *L. intermedia* has 3-sided light brown seeds covered with an off-white, reticulate membrane while the seeds of *L. leggettii* are brown and 2-sided (flattened). All members of the genus *Lechea* in Ohio are morphologically similar and technical characters are needed to distinguish the species.

TOTAL RANGE: Cape Breton Island to Ont., MN, and ND, s. to NE, IL, WI, MI, OH, and PA, ne. to NY, VT, NH, and in the mts. to VA.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are known from Ashland, Holmes, Knox, Lucas, Portage, Richland, and Summit counties. Pre-1980 records are known from Lorain, Stark, and Wayne counties.

HABITAT: Usually sunny areas in dry, sterile, acidic, sandy soil in fields, openings, and dunes.

HAZARDS: Unknown, possibly overshadowing by woody species as a result of succession; or compaction of the soil by trampling.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, probably good due to the widespread availability of habitat.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Fruiting material and seeds are needed for accurate identification. Overwintering basal leaf shoots, produced late in the season, are helpful. Non-flowering material cannot be identified with certainty.

COMMENTS: This species is not conspicuous and is easily misidentified. It should be sought throughout glaciated Ohio.

Some authors recognize three varieties of *L. intermedia*. If this treatment is followed, Ohio plants belong to the typical variety. However, most recent treatments consider it a single entity.

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.

Hodgdon, A.R. 1938. A taxonomic study of *Lechea*. *Rhodora* 40: 29-69, 87-131.

O'Connor, M.A. and W.H. Blackwell, Jr. 1974. Taxonomy and distribution of Ohio Cistaceae. *Castanea* 39: 228-239.

Wilbur, R.L. and H.S. Daoud. 1964. The genus *Lechea* (Cistaceae) in southeastern United States. *Rhodora* 63: 103-118.



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