

LECHEA TENUIFOLIA Michx.
Narrow-leaved Pinweed

FAMILY: Cistaceae

HABIT: Suffruticose or herbaceous perennial, 1-3 dm.; flowering late July- early August; fruiting late July-November.

SIMILAR SPECIES: *Lechea tenuifolia* is similar to *L. minor*. Cauline leaf characters are useful to distinguish the two species. *L. tenuifolia* has narrowly linear cauline leaves whereas the leaves of *L. minor* are narrowly ovate to lanceolate. All members of the genus *Lechea* in Ohio are morphologically similar and technical characters are needed to distinguish the species.

TOTAL RANGE: S. ME to SC, chiefly near the coast; MN to IN, s. and sw. to MS and TX.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are known from Adams, Ashland, Athens, Holmes, Noble, and Ross counties. Pre-1980 records occur from Lucas and Pike counties.

HABITAT: Dry, sandy and rocky woods, slopes, fields, and barrens.

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

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

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

COMMENTS: This is an inconspicuous species that is easily misidentified. It should be sought throughout the state.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Hodgdon, A.R. 1938. A taxonomic study of *Lechea*. *Rhodora* 40: 26-69, 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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