

LIGUSTICUM CANADENSE (L.) Britt.
American Lovage

FAMILY: Umbelliferae (Apiaceae)

HABIT: Perennial herb to 2 m.; flowering May-August; fruiting July-September.

SIMILAR SPECIES: *Ligusticum canadense* resembles *Thaspium barbinode*. *L. canadense* has white to whitish flower petals and a prominent stylopodium, whereas *T. barbinode* has yellow flower petals and no stylopodium. Non-flowering material cannot be distinguished with certainty.

TOTAL RANGE: S. PA and KY to GA and AL; also in s. MO and AR.

STATE RANGE: LAWRENCE CO.: dry woods in Minnow Hollow, 2 mi. sw. of Pine Grove, 25 May 1952, F. Bartley (OS). Roberts & Cooperrider (1982) state that this species was collected in 1952 in Scioto County; this is probably an erroneous reference to the above specimen. A Ross County collection cited in Cusick & Silberhorn (1977) actually is a misidentified *Thaspium barbinode*.

HABITAT: A variety of mesic woods and ravines; occasionally in drier oak woods.

HAZARDS: Unknown, perhaps removal of forest canopy.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, but possibly good if planted in its native habitat.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Mature flowering or fruiting material is needed for positive identification; avoid over-collecting.

COMMENTS: *L. canadense* should be sought throughout southern Ohio. Because of its similarity to other umbellifers, this species may well be overlooked or misidentified.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Cusick, A.W. and G.M. Silberhorn. 1977. The vascular plants of unglaciated Ohio. Ohio Biol. Surv. Bull. N.S. 5(4): i-x, 1-153.

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

Roberts, M.L. and T.S. Cooperrider, 1982. Dicotyledons. In: Endangered and threatened plants of Ohio. Ohio Biol. Surv. Biol. Notes No. 16: 48-84.



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