

LISTERA CORDATA (L.) R. Br.  
Heartleaf Twayblade

FAMILY: Orchidaceae

HABIT: Herbaceous perennial 0.5-3.0 dm.; flowering late June-July.

SIMILAR SPECIES: One of Ohio's most distinctive orchids. Perhaps it could be mistaken for *Malaxis unifolia* (Green Adder's-mouth) that has one, rather than two, leaves.

TOTAL RANGE: Circumboreal, ranging in this hemisphere s. to MA, NY, PA, OH, WI, and ne. MN, also s. in the Appalachians to NC and in the western mountains to n. AZ.

STATE RANGE: ASHTABULA CO.: E. Monroe Twp., 16 June 1933, L.E. Hicks & F.B. Chapman (OS).

HABITAT: In deep shade in mossy, coniferous woods and the shrub borders of bogs.

HAZARDS: Prolonged sunlight; high summer temperatures; trampling and compaction of soil.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, but probably poor.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Avoid over-collecting.

COMMENTS: This small orchid with mosquito-size flowers is extremely inconspicuous. Case (1964) says, "It is easy to walk through large colonies and miss them entirely." It may still be extant in Ashtabula County and it should be sought in appropriate habitats.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Brackley, F.E. 1985. The orchids of New Hampshire. *Rhodora* 87: 1-117.

Case, F.W. 1964. Orchids of the western Great Lakes region. *Cranbrook Institute of Science Bull. No. 48*, Bloomfield Hills, MI. 147 p.

Luer, C.A. 1975. The native orchids of the United States and Canada excluding Florida. *New York Botanical Garden*, New York, NY. 361 p.



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