

MUHLENBERGIA CAPILLARIS (Lam.) Trin.
Hairgrass

FAMILY: Graminae (Poaceae)

HABIT: Herbaceous caespitose perennial, 5-10 dm.; flowering September- October.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Many members of *Muhlenbergia* require technical characters for identification. In the field, this may be confused with *Eragrostis spectabilis*, as they both have open, purple inflorescences.

TOTAL RANGE: FL to e. TX, n. to MA, NJ, e. PA, s. OH, KY, s. In, s. IL, MO, and KS; W.I. and e. Mex.

STATE RANGE: PORTAGE CO.: JACKSON CO.: -----, 1933, L. Pontius (BHO); Liberty Twp., 1 Oct. 1933, F. Bartley & L. Pontius (OS, 3 sheets); rocky ridge near Limerick, 8 Sept. 1934, L. Pontius & F. Bartley (OS); rocky ridge neare Limerick, 24 Sept. 1934, F. Bartley (BHO); Jackson Twp., Sept. 1934, L. Pontius & F. Bartley (US).

HABITAT: Sandy soil, rocky woods, clearings.

HAZARDS: Unknown, but possibly grazing, as many species of *Muhlenbergia* are important range grasses.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Presumed good due to the availability of suitable habitat.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Mature flowering material with underground parts needed for identification. Note density of basal tufts.

COMMENTS: This grass may still be extant in southern Ohio and should be looked for in suitable habitats

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Hitchcock, A.S. 1951. Manual of grasses of the United States. Ed. 2, rev. by A. Chase. U.S. Dep. Agr. Publ. 200/ 1051 p.



Division of Natural Areas and Preserves
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Created: 1/1985 David Spooner