

***Muhlenbergia glabrifloris* Michx.**  
Hair Grass

**Family:** Poaceae

**Synonyms:** None

**Description:** Perennial with well-developed rhizomes; herbaceous culms much branched giving it a bushy appearance and up to 1 m tall. Sheaths glabrous and ligules up to 1.5 mm long; panicles 2-6.5 cm long; axillary panicles common; lemmas 2.2-3.1 mm, shiny and usually glabrous (Flora of North America 2003).

**Flowering:** August to September; **Fruiting:** September to October

**Similar Species:** *Muhlenbergia glabrifloris* is very similar to the common *Muhlenbergia frondosa* except it has a glabrous lemma compared to bearded lemma of *M. frondosa*.



**Total Range: USA:** IL, IN, KY, MD, MO, MS, NC, OH, TN, TX, VA.

**Ohio Range:** Pike County.

**Ohio Status:** [www.ohiodnr.com/dnap](http://www.ohiodnr.com/dnap)

**Habitats:** Pin oak flatwoods and dry to moist meadows.

**Threats:** Invasive species and habitat loss.

**Conservation Potential:** It does respond well to disturbance. Majority of the known population occurs on private land.

**Inventory Guidelines:** Collect complete, mature fruiting specimens. Record number of fruiting culms and clone size.

**Comments:** This species was discovered in 2002 in a pin oak-swamp white oak flatwoods in the pre-glacial Teays River Valley (Gardner et al. 2004). In other parts of its range it grows in wet and dry prairies, edges of glades, and railroads.

This species may be more frequent than currently known. It can be easily overlooked due to its similarity to the common *Muhlenbergia frondosa*. *Muhlenbergia glabrifloris* should be sought throughout south-central Ohio.

## **Selected References:**

Flora of North America Editorial Committee, eds. 2003. Flora of North America North of Mexico, Vol. 25. New York and Oxford. 783 pp.

Gardner, R.L., J.S. McCormac & D. Minney. 2004. *Dichanthelium scoparium* and *Muhlenbergia glabriflorus* new to the flora of Ohio. Sida 21(1): 465-471.

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### **Ohio Natural Heritage Program**

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