

PANICUM MERIDIONALE Ashe
Southern Hairy Panic-grass

FAMILY: Poaceae.

SYNONYM: *Dichantherium meridionale*_(Ashe) Freckman; *Dichantherium acuminatum* (Swartz) Gould & Clark var. *implicatum*_(Scribner) Gould & Clark

HABIT: Perennial, culms erect or ascending, 0.5-4.5 dm high; flowering and fruiting June-September.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Similar to other members of the genus *Panicum*, especially *Panicum columbianum*. Careful examination is required for accurate identification.

TOTAL RANGE: Southwestern Nova Scotia, MA to MN, south to e. NC, TN, n. GA and n. AL.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are from Ashtabula, Erie, Lucas, Portage, and Summit counties. Pre-1980 record from Wood County.

HABITAT: Dry open woods, fields, and sand barrens; sometimes found in semi-moist sandy places.

HAZARDS: Overgrowth by other species through succession.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, possibly good.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect complete, mature specimens.

COMMENTS: This species may be more frequent in Ohio than current records indicate. It should be sought in the Oak Openings region and other sandy, open habitats in northern Ohio. Gleason and Cronquist (1991) merge this species under *Panicum leucothrix* without rank.

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