

PANICUM TUCKERMANII Fern.
Tuckerman's Panic-grass

FAMILY: Poaceae.

SYNONYMS: *Panicum philadelphicum* Bernh. var. *tuckermanii* (Fern.) Steyermark & Schmoll

HABIT: Annual, usually freely forking and forming decumbent mats; culms slender, 0.1-7 dm long; flowering and fruiting July-October.

SIMILAR SPECIES: It is very similar to *Panicum gattingeri* and *Panicum philadelphicum* and may be distinguished by careful examination of fruit and vegetative characters (see COMMENTS).

TOTAL RANGE: Nova Scotia and NY to MN, s. to GA and TX.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are from Erie, Lucas, Ottawa, and Summit counties.

HABITAT: Open, moist sandy shores and fields.

HAZARDS: Overgrowth by other species through succession.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, possibly good due to its variety of habitats.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect complete, mature specimens.

COMMENTS: This species is easily overlooked and/or misidentified. It may be more frequent in Ohio than current records indicate. It should be sought in suitable habitats in northern Ohio. Braun (1967), Gleason and Cronquist (1991) and other authors have included this species under *Panicum philadelphicum* without rank.

P. tuckermanii can be separated from *P. philadelphicum* by the terminal panicle partially included in the sheath and the lower third of the stem forks or zigzags. It is also very similar to *P. gattingeri* but it has smaller spikelets that are evenly spaced on the panicle branches. Fernald (1950) and Dore and McNeill (1980) have keys that include *P. tuckermanii*.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

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