

PERSICARIA ROBUSTIOR (Small) Bickn.
Coarse Smartweed

FAMILY: Polygonaceae

SYNONYMS: *Polygonum punctatum* Ell. var. *robustius* Small
Polygonum punctatum Ell. var. *majus* (Meissner) Fassett
Polygonum robustius (Small) Fern.

HABIT: Perennial from a stout rhizome, to 1 meter or more tall; flowering late July-September, fruiting September-October.

SIMILAR SPECIES: It is very similar to *Polygonum punctatum* but more robust. Its inflorescence is continuous and leaves broader than *P. punctatum*.

TOTAL RANGE: Nova Scotia to FL and tropical America.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are from Ashtabula, Geauga, Lake, Summit, and Trumbull counties.

HABITAT: Margins of streams, lakes and ponds.

HAZARDS: Alterations to wetland habitat; overgrowth of woody species through succession.

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

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect complete, flowering specimens with underground parts.

COMMENTS: This species easily can be overlooked or misidentified. It may be more frequent in Ohio than current records indicate. It should be sought in suitable habitats throughout Ohio, especially in northern Ohio.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Gleason, H.A., and A. Cronquist. 1991. Manual of vascular plants of northeastern United States and adjacent Canada. New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, New York. 910 pp.

Mitchell, R.S. and J.K. Dean. 1978. Polygonaceae (Buckwheat Family) of New York State. N.Y. State Museum Bull. 431. 79 pp.



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