

POTAMOGETON FRIESII Rupr.
Fries' Pondweed

FAMILY: Potamogetonaceae

HABIT: Submersed aquatic from a buried rhizome, stems elongating to 1 m.; flowering and fruiting July-October.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Vegetative material superficially resembles other narrow-leaved pondweeds, especially *Potamogeton foliosus* and *P. strictifolius*. This complex of species is identified by comparison of subtle leaf and stipule characters and by size and shape of fruiting spike.

TOTAL RANGE: Quebec and Newfoundland to Mack. and AK, s. to NJ, PA, and IN, n. IA, NE, and UT.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): There is a post-1980 record from Portage County.

HABITAT: Calcareous to brackish waters; lakes, ponds, estuaries; occasionally to depths of 6 m.

HAZARDS: Mechanical disturbance of lake bottoms; turbidity.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, probably poor.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect fruiting material with a representative length of stem; leave rhizome intact.

COMMENTS: The narrow-leaved pondweeds are extremely similar to one another and difficult to identify except in fruiting condition. Therefore, this species may still be extant and merely overlooked or misidentified. However, its natural habitat in Ohio has been severely altered or destroyed. It should be sought in appropriate habitats throughout northern Ohio.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Fernald, M.L. 1932. The linear-leaved North American species of *Potamogeton* section *Axillares*. Mem. Amer. Acad. Arts & Sci. 17: 1-183.

Haynes, R.R. 1974. A revision of North American *Potamogeton* subsection *Pusillii* (Potamogetonaceae). Rhodora 76: 564-649.

Hellquist, C.B. and G.E. Crow. 1980. Aquatic vascular plants of New England: Part 1. Zosteraceae, Potamogetonaceae. Sta. Bull. 515. 68 p.



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