

POTAMOGETON PRAELONGUS Wulfen
White-stem Pondweed

FAMILY: Potamogetonaceae

HABIT: Submersed aquatic with stout rusty-spotted rhizome; flowering June, July; fruit usually withdrawing to deep water during maturation.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Deep water specimens of *P. praelongus* may have only rounded or somewhat tapered leaf bases, and hence could be mistaken for *P. amplifolius*. However, the stipules of *P. praelongus* are strongly whitish while those of *P. amplifolius* are tinged with brown or green. Additionally, the leaves of *P. praelongus* tend to have fewer nerves than those of *P. amplifolius* and are never floating.

TOTAL RANGE: Circumboreal, s. in America to CT, MD, IN, MN, CO, and CA.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): There are post-1980 records from Geauga and Portage counties. There are pre-1980 records from Williams County.

HABITAT: Cold, usually deep waters of lakes and less frequently, rivers; reported to depths of 7 m.

HAZARDS: Unknown, but perhaps turbidity or mechanical disturbance.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Probably poor, owing to a lack of cold, deep waters in Ohio.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Every effort should be made to obtain fruiting specimens; however, in the absence of fertile material, sterile specimens should be collected.

COMMENTS: In deep waters, *P. praelongus* may occur at depths that do not permit easy sighting. Special efforts may be needed to obtain additional data on the species' occurrence in Ohio.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

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Ogden, E.C. 1943. The broad-leaved species of *Potamogeton* of North America, north of Mexico. *Rhodora* 45: 57-105, 119-163, 171-124.

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