

POTAMOGETON TENNESSEENSIS Fern.  
Tennessee Pondweed

FAMILY: Potamogetonaceae

HABIT: Submersed and floating-leaved aquatic with very slender, terete stems, submersed leaves linear-filiform, floating leaves lanceolate or lance-oblong; flowering May-September; fruiting July-October.

SIMILAR SPECIES: The overall small size of *P. tennesseensis*, in combination with the acute floating leaves, renders the species reasonably distinctive. It may be mistaken for a depauperate specimen of *P. epihydrus*.

TOTAL RANGE: WV to TN and OH.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are from Adams, Jackson, Pike, Scioto, and Vinton counties.

HABITAT: Still or flowing water.

HAZARDS: Unknown, but perhaps mechanical disturbance.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, but perhaps good in suitable habitat.

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

COMMENTS: This species has been notoriously misidentified. Misidentification, however, is likely related more to a lack of knowledge of the species' existence, rather than to a lack of distinguishing characters.

This species should be sought throughout southern Ohio. It may be more frequent than the few records indicate.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Fernald, M.L. 1936. A new pondweed from Tennessee. *Rhodora* 38: 165- 169.

Hutton, E.E. and R.B. Clarkson. 1961. Two plants new for North America and some new or otherwise interesting plants in West Virginia. *Castanea* 26: 84-88.

Ogden, E.C. 1947. *Potamogeton tennesseensis* new to manual range. *Rhodora* 49: 255-256.

Strausbaugh, P.D. and E.L. Core. 1970. Flora of West Virginia. Part I, 2nd ed. West Virginia University Bull., Series 70. 1- 273.



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Created: 11/1983 John Marshall