

POTENTILLA ARGUTA Pursh
Tall Cinquefoil

FAMILY: Rosaceae

HABIT: Erect, herbaceous, rhizomatous perennial, 3-10 dm.; flowering June, July; fruiting July, August.

SIMILAR SPECIES: This large, coarse plant with its brownish, viscid pubescence, large pinnate leaves, and crowded inflorescence is a distinctive species not likely to be confused with other Ohio cinquefoils.

TOTAL RANGE: E. Quebec to Mack., s. to DC, IN, MO, and AZ.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are from Ottawa County. Pre-1980 records are from Licking and Portage counties.

HABITAT: Dry woods and prairies, rocky, brushy, or alluvial soils; also in disturbed areas such as limestone quarries and sand and gravel pits.

HAZARDS: Overshading by woody species through succession; soil compaction; competition.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, but probably good as it is known to tolerate disturbance.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect mature flowering or fruiting material; avoid over-collecting.

COMMENTS: This is a conspicuous and easily identified species. It is difficult to account for its rarity and geographic distribution in Ohio. It should be sought throughout the state.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Strausbaugh, P.D. and E.L. Core. 1971. Flora of West Virginia, Part II, 2nd ed. West Virginia Univ. Bull., Series 71, Morgantown, WV. 275-575.



Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Division of Natural Areas and Preserves

Created: 6/1981 David P. Emmitt