

ROSA ARKANSANA Porter  
Arkansas Rose

FAMILY: Rosaceae

SYNONYMS: *Rosa suffulta* Greene

HABIT: Low, densely prickly shrub to 1 dm.; flowering May-August; fruiting July-September.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Similar to other Ohio wild roses. Arkansas Rose is the only Ohio species with non-glandular, pilose foliage and fruit with erect, persistent sepals. Smooth rose (*Rosa blanda*) is superficially similar, but its canes are largely unarmed.

TOTAL RANGE: NY to Alta., s. to DC, IN, WI, MO, KS, TX, and NM; the typical variety occurs to the west of this range.

STATE RANGE: HAMILTON CO.: field in Hyde Park, Cincinnati, 8 June 1917, E.L. Braun (CINC). It is not certain if this site description refers to a field in the Cincinnati, suburb of Hyde Park or to an area in the city park called Hyde Park.

HABITAT: Dry openings, prairies, thickets; often in limy or sandy substrates.

HAZARDS: Unknown; possibly shading by overgrowth of woody vegetation.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, most rose species, however, are cultivated easily.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect mature fruiting material.

COMMENTS: It is uncertain if this species is indigenous to Ohio. The only known specimen may have come from a Cincinnati park. Braun (1961) indicates that some specimens of *Rosa carolina* from Adams County appear to intergrade with Arkansas rose. No such intergrades, however, are found in herbaria searched so far. There is a lack of good herbarium material of wild roses, so it is difficult to come to a certain conclusion on this subject. This species should be sought in suitable habitats throughout southwestern Ohio.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Braun, E.L. 1961. The woody plants of Ohio. The Ohio State University Press, Columbus, OH. 362 p.



Ohio Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Natural Areas and Preserves

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