

SPERMACOCE GLABRA Michx.
Smooth buttonweed

FAMILY: Rubiaceae

HABIT: Spreading to decumbent herbaceous perennial, 2-6 dm.; flowering July-September.

SIMILAR SPECIES: May be confused with *Diodia virginiana* but has many more and smaller flowers in the axils.

TOTAL RANGE: S. OH to S. MO, s. to FL and TX.

STATE RANGE: There are post-1950 collections from 6 counties in the Ohio River Valley: Adams, Clermont, Hamilton, Lawrence, Scioto, and Washington. There is a pre-1950 specimen from Fairfield County.

STATE STATUS: 1980 to present: Potentially Threatened.

HABITAT: Swamps, wet woods and openings; in Ohio found mostly on muddy shores and low banks of the Ohio River.

HAZARDS: Sudden changes in water level, overshadowing by woody species in later successional stages.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown; probably good due to perennial habit.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect mature flowering material.

COMMENTS: Populations of this species fluctuate greatly from year to year, presumably in relation to changes in water level in the Ohio River.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Cooperrider, T.S. 1995. The Dicotyledoneae of Ohio. Part 2. Linaceae through Campanulaceae. Ohio State Univ. Press, Columbus, OH. 656 pp.

Hauser, E.J.P., Jr. 1962. The Rubiales of Ohio. M.A. Thesis. Kent State Univ., Kent, Ohio. P. 50, 51.

Roszbach, G.B. 1963. Distributional and taxonomic notes on some plants collected in West Virginia and nearby states. *Castanea* 28: 10-38.



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