

SPIRANTHES LUCIDA (H.H. Eaton) Ames
Shining Ladies'-tresses

FAMILY: Orchidaceae

HABIT: Herbaceous perennial, 1-2.5 dm.; flowering May, June.

SIMILAR SPECIES: All members of the genus *Spiranthes* in Ohio are similar and are distinguished by floral characters. However, *Spiranthes lucida* flowers earlier than other members of the genus in Ohio.

TOTAL RANGE: N.B. to s. Ont. and MN, s. to N.S., ME, NJ, PA, OH, MI, IN, IL, MO; s. in uplands to VA, KY, TN, and NC.

STATE RANGE: There are post-1960 collections from 7 counties: Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Pike, Ross, Seneca, and Summit. There are pre-1960 records from 9 other counties: Adams, Champaign, Franklin, Greene, Lucas, Mahoning, Medina, Portage, and Trumbull.

STATE STATUS: 1980-1987: Threatened, 1988 to present: Potentially Threatened.

HABITAT: Usually calcareous soil in areas where water supply is abundant: moist banks, wet meadows, lakeshores, damp woods and marshes; often in pastures.

HAZARDS: Trampling and compaction of soil; casual picking; drying of habitat.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, but the species can tolerate moderate disturbance.

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

COMMENTS: This early-flowering *Spiranthes* may be more frequent in Ohio than the records indicate. It should be sought throughout the state.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

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