

SPIRANTHES MAGNICAMPORUM Sheviak
Great Plains Ladies'-tresses

FAMILY: Orchidaceae

HABIT: Herbaceous perennial to 6 dm.; flowering mid September-November.

SIMILAR SPECIES: All members of the genus *Spiranthes* in Ohio are similar and are distinguished by floral characters. *S. magnicamporum* is most similar to *S. cernua* and is best distinguished from it by the absence of leaves during anthesis, its thick, tuberous roots, and the shape of the lip. It blooms rather later than other Ohio *Spiranthes*.

TOTAL RANGE: S. Ont., OH, IN, IL, IA, MN, ND, SD, NE, MO, KS, OK, TX; and local in UT, CO, NM, LA, and AL.

STATE RANGE: There are post-1960 records from Adams, Erie, Ottawa, Seneca, Summit, and Wood counties; however, the population from Seneca County is no longer extant. There are pre-1960 records from Clark, Franklin, Lucas, and Ross counties.

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

HABITAT: Primarily calcareous soils in grassy fields, dry prairies, and limestone quarry floors.

HAZARDS: Trampling and compaction of soil; overshadowing by woody species as a result of succession.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, but tolerant of moderate disturbance.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect complete flowering material with underground parts; avoid over-collecting.

COMMENTS: This taxon has been recently segregated from the *Spiranthes cernua* complex (Sheviak, 1973) and all old records should be checked for proper identification. This species is probably more frequent in western Ohio than the records indicate. It may have been overlooked due to its late blooming period.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

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Division of Natural Areas and Preserves

Created: 11/1983 Barbara K. Andreas
Database Code: SPGY.V12