

STENANTHIUM GRAMINEUM (Ker) Morong.
Feather-bells

FAMILY: Liliaceae

SYNONYMS: *Stenanthium robustum* S. Wats. (= var. *robustum* (S. Wats.) Fern.

HABIT: Stems arising from bulbous base are leafy below, reduced upwards to panicle, 0.25-1.9 m; flowers and fruits June-Sept.

SIMILAR SPECIES: This genus, with only one species in Ohio, is very distinctive with its long grass-like leaves, paniced inflorescence and many smallish white flowers. Two types of flowers are present. Flowers of panicle branches are staminate, whereas flowers of the terminal unbranched axis are perfect.

TOTAL RANGE: PA, OH, IN and MO, s. to FL and AR.

STATE RANGE: There are post-1960 records from Gallia, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike and Scioto Counties. There are pre-1960 records from Adams, Hamilton, Licking and Stark Counties.

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

HABITAT: Moist rocky woods, rich wooded slopes; most frequent on acid soils.

HAZARDS: Possibly overgrowth by woody species as a result of succession; destruction of habitat by mining or logging.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Possibly poor; the species appears to be difficult to transplant (Deam 1940).

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect mature flowering specimens.

COMMENTS: Two intergrading varieties occur in Ohio. The var. *robustum* is larger with wider leaves and a denser, longer panicle. The var. *robustum* has erect fruits, whereas var. *gramineum* has deflexed fruits. The species should be sought in southern Ohio.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Braun, E.L. 1967. The Monocotyledoneae [of Ohio]: Cat-tails to orchids. The Ohio State Univ. Press, Columbus OH. 464 pp.

Deam, C.C. 1940. Flora of Indiana. Burford Printing Co., Indianapolis. 1236 pp.

Steyermark, J.A. 1963. Flora of Missouri. The Iowa State University Press, Ames IA. 1728 pp.



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