

SAGITTARIA RIGIDA Pursh
Deer's-Tongue Arrowhead

FAMILY: Alismataceae

SYNONYMS: *Sagittaria bulbosa* Donn
Sagittaria heterophylla Pursh
Sagittaria sagittifolia var. *minor* Hook
Sagittaria sagittifolia var. *rigida* Pursh (Torr.)
Sagittaria heterophylla var. *fluitans* Engelm.
Sagittaria heterophylla var. *angustifolia* Engelm.
Sagittaria heterophylla var. *elliptica* Engelm.
Sagittaria heterophylla var. *rigida* (Pursh) Engelm
Sagittaria rigida (Pursh) Nieuwl.

HABIT: Terrestrial to aquatic perennial herb, scape to 8 dm.; flowering July to September

TOTAL RANGE: ME and Quebec to MN, s. to VA, TN, MO, and NE.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are from Ashtabula, Erie, Geauga, Lucas, Ottawa, Pickaway, and Stark Counties. Pre-1980 records are from Cuyahoga, Lake, Licking, Lorain, Medina, Muskingum, Perry, Pike, Portage, Ross, and Sandusky.

HABITAT: Shallow water and shores of ponds, marshes, ditches, and canals. Most of the recent records are from counties bordering Lake Erie, and the old Ohio and Erie Canal.

HAZARDS: Drainage or other alteration causing excessive drying of the wetland habitat.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, but possibly good due to its variety of habitat.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Mature flowering or fruiting material is needed for positive identification.

COMMENTS: Certainly destruction of wetland habitat, and possibly other unknown factors, has caused a considerable decline in the abundance of *Sagittaria rigida* in Ohio.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Flora of North America Editorial Committee, eds. 1993+. Flora of North America North of Mexico. 4+ vols. New York and Oxford. (The Alismataceae is treated in Volume 22.)

Gleason, H.A., and A. Cronquist. 1991. Manual of vascular plants of northeastern United States and adjacent Canada. New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, New York. 910 pp.



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