

SALIX SERISSIMA (Bailey) Fern.
Autumn Willow

FAMILY: Salicaceae

HABIT: Medium-sized shrub, 2-4 m; flowers May-June, fruits late summer to early fall.

SIMILAR SPECIES: This species can be distinguished from other willows by the following combination of characters: leaves dark green and glossy above, whitened beneath and with fine reticulate venation pattern; leaf margins finely glandular-serrulate; branchlets shiny. The species is most easily confused with *S. lucida* with which it may hybridize. However, *S. lucida* has leaves that are non-glaucous beneath and prominent stipules (1-6 mm wide) with conspicuous glands on the margins.

TOTAL RANGE: Nfdl. to Alb., s. to n. NY, n. OH, n. IN, c. MN and CO.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): There are post-1980 records for this species from Ashtabula, Columbiana, Geauga, Portage, Stark, Summit and Williams counties. There is a pre-1980 record from Lake County.

HABITAT: Bogs, fens and swamps.

HAZARDS: Overgrowth by taller woody species as a result of succession.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, but probably good, the preservation and management of fens protects critical habitat for this species.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect specimens with flowers or mature fruit; note growth habit.

COMMENTS: The species should be sought in bogs and fens throughout northern Ohio.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

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