

SCLERIA OLIGANTHA Michaux
Tubercled Nut-rush

FAMILY: Cyperaceae

HABIT: Herbaceous perennial from a knotty rhizome, flowering culms to 70 cm.; flowering and fruiting June-August.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Very similar to the tall nut-rush (*Scleria triglomerata*) which grows in similar habitats. These species are distinguished by close examination of the mature nutlets.

TOTAL RANGE: C. America, Mexico, and Puerto Rico, n. to TX, MO, IN, VA, and reputedly in NJ.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): There are post-1980 records from Adams, Lawrence, Meigs, and Scioto counties.

HABITAT: A variety of open habitats in sun or semi-shade on calcareous substrates; fields, prairies, and woodland openings.

HAZARDS: Overgrowth by woody vegetation through succession.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, but probably good.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Mature nutlets are required for positive identification.

COMMENTS: This species has been overlooked in Ohio because of its similarity to *Scleria triglomerata*. It should be sought in calcareous openings throughout southern Ohio.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

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.

Kessler, J.W. 1987. A treatment of *Scleria* (Cyperaceae) for North America north of Mexico. Sida 12: 391-407.



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