

ANEMONE CYLINDRICA Gray  
Prairie Thimbleweed

FAMILY: Ranunculaceae

HABIT: Erect, herbaceous perennial, 3-10 dm.; flowering June-August; fruiting July-September.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Superficially resembles *A. virginiana* and *A. canadensis*. *A. cylindrica* has a cylindrical fruit head and 3-10 involucral leaves, which are petioled. *A. virginiana* has an ovoid fruit head and rarely more than 3 involucral leaves, also petioled. *A. canadensis* has sessile involucral leaves.

TOTAL RANGE: ME to B.C., s. to NJ, OH, MO, and AZ.

STATE RANGE: There are post-1980 records from Clark, Erie, Fulton, Lucas, and Wood counties. There are pre-1980 collections from Cuyahoga, Hancock, Ottawa, and Wyandot counties.

HABITAT: Dry open woods and slopes, prairies, sandy ridges, quarries, and roadsides.

HAZARDS: Overgrowth by woody species through succession; soil compaction.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown; possibly good due to its somewhat aggressive nature.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect individuals with mature flowers or fruit.

COMMENTS: *A. cylindrica* reportedly hybridizes with *A. virginiana*. These putative hybrids exhibit not only intermediacy but mixtures of the strong leaf characters of one species with the fruiting heads of the other. Though such plants are rare, they lend credence to the hypothesis that these species occasionally cross in nature (Mitchell and Dean, 1982). Due to this situation and *A. cylindrica*'s close resemblance to other anemones, this species frequently is reported erroneously from many parts of Ohio. However, it seems restricted to the northwestern quarter of the state.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Henry, L.K. and W.B. Buker. 1950. The Ranunculaceae of western Pennsylvania. *Castanea* 23: 33-46.

Mitchell, R.S. and J.K. Dean. 1982. Ranunculaceae (Crowfoot family) of New York State. *New York State Museum Bull.* 446. 100 p.



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