CAREX BUSHII Mackenzie
Bush's Sedge

FAMILY: Cyperaceae

HABIT: Loosely cespitose perennial with stiff, sparsely pubescent culms up to 8 dm tall; flowering mid-May to mid-June; fruiting mid-June to July.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Similar in habit to Carex hirsutella and Carex caroliniana. It differs from C. hirsutella by having spreading perigynia and conspicuous nerves on the perigynia. C. bushii differs from C. caroliniana by having densely short-pubescent sheaths and scales that are 3-6 mm long compared to 2-3 mm long.

TOTAL RANGE: MA and NY to MI and KS, s. to VA, MS and TX.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are from Jackson, Medina, and Summit counties. Pre-1980 records are from Ross County.

HABITAT: Moist prairies, fields, and meadows in full sun.

HAZARDS: Overgrowth by woody species through succession.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Possibly good, as it is known to occur in disturbed habitats.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect complete specimens with underground parts and mature fruit.

COMMENTS: This species is easily overlooked and probably more frequent than few records indicate. It should be sought in suitable habitats throughout Ohio.

SELECTED REFERENCES:


Division of Natural Areas and Preserves
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

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