

CAREX FORMOSA Dewey  
Handsome Sedge

FAMILY: Cyperaceae.

HABIT: Tufted perennial from a short, upright rootstalk, fertile culms 3-8 dm.; fruiting May, June.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Very similar to the common *Carex davisii*, differing in the short pistillate scales lacking a distinct awn. In general appearance perhaps confused with the common *C. gracillima* and *C. prasina*, both of which have glabrous, rather than pubescent, foliage.

TOTAL RANGE: CT, s. Que., s. Ont., WI, MN, and ND, s. to n. OH.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): WOOD CO.: moist woods, New Rochester, 10 June 1958, N. W. Easterly 531 (OS).

STATE STATUS: 1980-1983: Endangered, 1984 to present: Presumed Extirpated.

HABITAT: Mesic woods, especially beech-maple woods.

HAZARDS: Unknown, but perhaps opening of forest canopy.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, but probably poor.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect complete, mature specimens.

COMMENTS: This species should be sought throughout Ohio. The habitat is widespread and the plant is not conspicuous. Probably it is overlooked and other populations can be found.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Argus, G.W. and D.J. White, 1982. Atlas of the rare vascular plants of Ontario: Part 1. National Museums of Canada, Ottawa. n.p.

Mackenzie, K.K. 1940. North American Cariceae. N.Y. Bot. Grd. p1 327.

Voss, E.G. 1972. Michigan flora, Part 1, Gymnosperms and monocots. Cranbrook Inst. of Sci. Bull. 55, Bloomfield Hills, MI. 488 p.

Wheeler, G.A. 1983. *Carex formosa* in North Dakota, Mich. Bot. 22: 162.



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