

CHAMAEDAPHNE CALYCVLATA (L.) Moench.  
Leather-leaf

FAMILY: Ericaceae

HABIT: Low, erect shrub to 1 m, often forming dense thickets; flowers May-June, fruits Sept.

SIMILAR SPECIES: This species can be distinguished from other ericaceous shrubs by the following combination of characters: alternate, evergreen, leaves bearing small, brownish, peltate scales on the underside; inflorescence a leafy, terminal raceme; flowers white, urn-shaped and nodding; fruit a depressed globose capsule with thickened sutures.

TOTAL RANGE: Circumboreal; in North America s. to NJ, OH, IN, IL and s. in mountains to NC.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): There are post-1980 records from Geauga, Portage, Stark and Summit Counties. There are pre-1980 records from Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Defiance, Erie, Lorain and Williams Counties.

HABITAT: Peat bogs and lakeshores.

HAZARDS: Draining, filling, or flooding of bogs; overshadowing by taller woody species as a result of succession

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Good; protection and management of bogs help ensure the recovery of this species.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect flowering or fruiting material.

COMMENTS: Ohio plants can be referred to as var. *angustifolia* (Ait.) Rehd. The species was planted on Cranberry Island in Licking County (Braun 1961).

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Barnes, B.V. and W.H. Wagner. 1981. Michigan Trees. A guide to the trees of Michigan and the Great Lakes region. Univ. of Mich. Press, Ann Arbor. 383 pp.

Braun, E.L. 1961. The woody plants of Ohio. The Ohio State Univ. Press, Columbus OH. 362 pp.

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.

Soper, J.H. and M.L. Heimbürger. 1982. Shrubs of Ontario. Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Canada. 495 pp.



Division of Natural Areas and Preserves  
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Created: 4/1993 Greg Schneider