

EPILOBIUM STRICTUM Muhl.
Simple Willow-herb

FAMILY: Onagraceae

HABIT: Perennial herb to 6 dm.; flowering July-September; fruiting August-October.

SIMILAR SPECIES: *Epilobium strictum* is very similar to and easily confused with other species of this genus, particularly *E. leptophyllum*. It is distinguished by technical flower and fruit characteristics.

TOTAL RANGE: Quebec to MN, s. to VA, OH, and n. IL.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are from Geauga, Portage, Summit, and Trumbull counties. Pre-1980 records are from Columbiana, Cuyahoga, Mahoning, and Stark counties.

HABITAT: Wet, semi-open to open situations: swamps, bogs, mossy thickets, sedge marshes, and wet meadows.

HAZARDS: Drainage or other alteration of the wetland habitat.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown. Possibly good due to its variety of habitat.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Mature flowering or fruiting material is needed for positive identification.

COMMENTS: This species may be somewhat more frequent in Ohio than current records indicate. It is easily misidentified and may be overlooked due to its inconspicuous appearance and the difficulty of collecting it in its wetland habitat. It should be sought throughout northern 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.

Munz, P.A. 1965. Onagraceae. N. Amer. Fl., Series II, pt. 5. N.Y. Bot. Gard. 1-231.



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