ERIOCAULON AQUATICUM (Hill) Druce
White-buttons

FAMILY: Eriocaulaceae

SYNONYMS: Eriocaulon septangulare With., Eriocaulon pellucidum Michx.

HABIT: Rosette-forming, herbaceous perennial from an elongated rhizome, flowering scape 4-100 cm.; flowering July-September.

SIMILAR SPECIES: The vegetative rosettes that frequently form in deeper waters are difficult to distinguish from other types of aquatics, such as Isoetes. When flowering, the species is distinctive.

TOTAL RANGE: Nfld. to w. Ont., s. to DE, VA, OH, IN, WI, and MN; also in the n. British Isles.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): There are post-1980 records from Logan and Portage counties. Braun (1967) reports it from Summit County.

HABITAT: Margins of glacial lakes, peaty shores; often in deep water.

HAZARDS: Changes in water level; development of shoreline.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, but probably poor.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect mature flowering material.

COMMENTS: When in flower, this species may be very conspicuous. Most often, however, Eriocaulon produces only small rosettes that are easily overlooked. It should be sought in glacial lakes in northern Ohio. A boat probably would be necessary to properly locate this plant.

The name E. pellucidum Michx. may be used if the American plants are considered a separate species form those in the British Isles.

SELECTED REFERENCES:


Division of Natural Areas and Preserves
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

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