

GYMNOPOGON AMBIGUUS (Michx.) BSP.  
Beardgrass

FAMILY: Gramineae (Poaceae)

HABIT: Herbaceous caespitose perennial, 3-6 dm.; flowering July-September.

SIMILAR SPECIES: When mature, this is a distinctive grass, unlikely to be confused with other Ohio species. Young plants are easily confused with various species of *Panicum*.

TOTAL RANGE: FL to TX, n. to NJ, s. OH, s. IN, MO, and se. KS; Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Southern Ohio is probably the northernmost extent of its interior range.

STATE RANGE: JACKSON CO.: dry soil, SW. of Limerick, 1 Sept. 1935, F. Bartley (BHO); Liberty Twp., 1 Sept. 1935, F. Bartley & L. Pontius (OS, 2 sheets); old field, 3/4 of a mile NW. of Vance Rock, Liberty Twp., 27 Aug. 1958, F. Bartley (OS).

HABITAT: Dry, sandy or rocky, acidic openings and thin woods.

HAZARDS: Unknown, possibly overgrowth by woody species through succession.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, but presumed good due to the availability of habitat.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Mature flowering material is needed for identification. Collect the underground parts.

COMMENTS: This grass is often difficult to see due to the lax culms that become intertwined with other vegetation. The inflorescence is particularly obscure. This grass should be sought in the proper habitats in southern Ohio.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Hitchcock, A.S. 1951. Manual of grasses of the United States. Ed. 2, rev. by A. Chase, U.S. Dep. Agr. Misc. Pub. 200. 1051 p.

Simth, J.P., Jr., 1971. Taxonomic revision of the genus *Gymnopogon* (Gramineae). Iowa St. J. Sci. 45: 319-385.



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