LECHEA TENUIFOLIA Michx.
Narrow-leaved Pinweed

FAMILY: Cistaceae

HABIT: Suffruticose or herbaceous perennial, 1-3 dm.; flowering late July- early August; fruiting late July-November.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Lechea tenuifolia is similar to L. minor. Cauline leaf characters are useful to distinguish the two species. L. tenuifolia has narrowly linear cauline leaves whereas the leaves of L. minor are narrowly ovate to lanceolate. All members of the genus Lechea in Ohio are morphologically similar and technical characters are needed to distinguish the species.

TOTAL RANGE: S. ME to SC, chiefly near the coast; MN to IN, s. and sw. to MS and TX.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are known from Adams, Ashland, Athens, Holmes, Noble, and Ross counties. Pre-1980 records occur from Lucas and Pike counties.

HABITAT: Dry, sandy and rocky woods, slopes, fields, and barrens.

HAZARDS: Unknown, possibly overshadowing by woody species as a result of succession; compaction of the soil by trampling.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, possibly good due to its tolerance of disturbance.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Fruiting material, seeds, and cauline leaves are needed for accurate identification. Overwintering basal leaf shoots, produced late in the season, are helpful. Sterile material cannot be identified with certainty.

COMMENTS: This is an inconspicuous species that is easily misidentified. It should be sought throughout the state.

SELECTED REFERENCES:


Division of Natural Areas and Preserves
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

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