

LECHEA VILLOSA Elliot
Hairy Pinweed

FAMILY: Cistaceae.

HABIT: Suffruticose or herbaceous perennial, 2-8 dm.; flowering August-September, fruiting August-November.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Although all members of the genus *Lechea* in Ohio are morphologically similar and require technical characters to distinguish among them, *L. villosa* is the most distinct due to the spreading pubescence on the stems.

TOTAL RANGE: NH to MI, IL, OH, KS, MO, OK, TX.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are known from Ashland, Fulton, Henry, Holmes, Lucas, Stark, and Summit counties. Pre-1980 records are known from Ashtabula, Defiance, Erie, Muskingum, and Wayne counties.

HABITAT: Dry, well-drained sandy or gravelly soil in woods, openings, beaches, and fields.

HAZARDS: Unknown, possibly overshadowing by woody species as a result of succession, and perhaps soil compaction from trampling.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, but probably good due to its generalized habitat.

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

Due to the morphological similarity of all species of the genus *Lechea* in Ohio, sight records should be verified.

COMMENTS: This plant is inconspicuous and could easily be overlooked. Since edaphic conditions for this species are more frequent in northwestern Ohio, and more collections have occurred from that region, this species should be sought in that portion of its range.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Hodgson, A.R. 1938. A taxonomic study of *Lechea*. *Rhodora* 40: 26-29, 87-131.

O'Connor, M.A. and W.H. Blackwell, Jr., 1974. Taxonomy and distribution of Ohio Cistaceae. *Castanea* 39: 228-239.

Wilbur, R.H. and H.S. Daoud. 1964. The genus *Lechea* (Cistaceae) in southeastern United States. *Rhodora* 63: 103-118.



Division of Natural Areas and Preserves
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Created: 2/1981 Barbara K. Andreas