

PLUCHEA CAMPHORATA (L.) DC.
Camphor-weed

FAMILY: Asteraceae

SYNONYMS: *Pluchea petiolata* Cassini

HABIT: Annual or short-lived perennial herb to 2 m; flowers Aug.-Sept., fruits Sept.-Oct.

SIMILAR SPECIES: This species can be distinguished from similar composites in Ohio by its strong camphoric odor.

TOTAL RANGE: DE and MD to n. FL, w. to s. OH, s. IL, and e. OK and TX.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are from Adams and Washington counties. There is a 1923 record from Brown County.

HABITAT: Swamps, wet woods, marshes, borders of streams, ponds and ditches. Often associated with pin oak, sweet gum and swamp cottonwood (Steyermark 1963).

HAZARDS: Destruction of wetland habitat by draining, filling or channelizing.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Possibly good, the species can apparently be easily transplanted (Reed 1960). It also grows well from seed (Deam 1940).

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect mature flowering specimens, note the foul odor.

COMMENTS: This species should be sought, with the aid of the olfactory nerves, throughout southern Ohio.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

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