

***Rubus trivialis* Michx.**
Southern Dewberry



Family: Rosaceae

Synonyms: *Rubus trivialis* Michx. var. *serosus* Bailey; *Rubus carpinifolius* Rydb.; *Rubus rubrisetus* Rydb.

Description: Trailing to low-arching canes, tip-rooting; primocanes and usually floricanes bearing glandular bristles among the hard curved prickles; leaves of primocanes somewhat evergreen with 5 glabrous, coarsely toothed leaflets; flowers 1 to few, petals white and fruit are black.

Flowering: May to June
Fruiting: June to August

Similar Species: *Rubus trivialis* is distinctive from other brambles by the glandular bristles among the large curved prickles.



Total Range: USA: AL, AR, DE, FL, GA, IL, KS, KY, LA, MD, MO, MS, NC, OH, OK, PA, SC, TN, TX, VA.

Ohio Range: Clermont and Hamilton counties.

Ohio Status: www.ohiodnr.com/dnap

Habitats: Old fields and flood plains; in full sun or partial shade.

Threats: Invasive species and overgrowth of woody vegetation through succession.

Conservation Potential: The only known site occurs in a public park. The species spreads vegetatively and does produce viable fruit.

Inventory Guidelines: Collect both primocanes and floricanes. Note growth habit, especially if the canes tip-root, and area covered.

Comments: The first collection of this species in Ohio was a vegetative specimen collected in 1916 from a dry field in Hamilton County (Braun 1961). This specimen was used to create the drawing in Braun's (1961) *Woody Plants of Ohio*. In 2004, a population was found along the Ohio River in Clermont County. Associates at this site include: *Apocynum cannabinum*, *Campsis radicans*, *Verbesina alternifolia*, *Symphytichum ontarione*, *Spermacoce glabra*, and *Vitis riparia*. The two-recorded sites in Ohio are similar habitats reported in Kentucky by Jones (2005).

This species is frequent along the Atlantic and Gulf coastal plains and interior in the Mississippi River watershed. It likely was never common in Ohio, reaching its northern limit in extreme southwestern Ohio. Additional populations may be discovered along the Ohio River in southwestern Ohio.

Rubus trivialis is sold as an ornamental.

Selected References:

- Braun, E.L. 1961. The woody plants of Ohio. The Ohio State University Press, Columbus, OH. 362 pp.
- Jones, R.L. 2005. Plant life of Kentucky: an illustrated guide to the vascular flora, The University Press of Kentucky, Lexington, KY. 856 pp.
- Steyermark, J.A. 1963. Flora of Missouri. The Iowa State University Press, Ames, IA. 1728 pp.



Ohio Natural Heritage Program

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