

SPIRANTHES ROMANZOFFIANA Cham.
Hooded Ladies'-tresses

FAMILY: Orchidaceae

HABIT: Rather stout herbaceous perennial, 1-2 dm.; flowering mid July- October.

SIMILAR SPECIES: All members of the genus *Spiranthes* in Ohio are similar and are distinguished by floral characters. *Spiranthes romanzoffiana* can be distinguished somewhat by its fiddle-shaped lip and by the 3 sepals and 2 petals that unite to form a hood that protrudes farther than the lip.

TOTAL RANGE: Lab. to AK, s. to Nfld., N.S., N.E. and w. to NY, PA, OH, MI, WI, IA, SD, CO, UT, and CA.

STATE RANGE: A 1960 record exists from Stark County. Pre-1960 records are known from Ashtabula, Erie, Geauga, Lake, Medina, and Portage counties.

STATE STATUS: 1980-1995: Endangered, 1996 to present: Potentially Threatened.

HABITAT: Usually calcareous soils in alkaline fens, rich open woods, and wet sands.

HAZARDS: Trampling and compaction of soil; alteration of the water supply.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Probably poor due to its rather specialized habitat and its necessity of associated mycorrhizal fungi.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect mature flowering material; avoid over-collecting.

COMMENTS: Because ladies'-tresses are difficult to distinguish, this species may be more frequent in northeastern Ohio than the records indicate. It should be sought in suitable habitats throughout its range.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

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