

CAREX CRINITA Lam. var. BREVICRINIS Fernald
Short-fringed Sedge

FAMILY: Cyperaceae

HABIT: Flowering stems 4-16 dm long; short rhizomes, densely tufted; Flowering/fruiting May-July.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Variety *brevicrinis* differs from the common variety by having strongly obovoid perigynia 3-4.5 x 2-3 mm and a symmetrical achene.

TOTAL RANGE: Mainly along the Atlantic coastal plain, north locally to MA, KY, and MO.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): There are post-1980 record from Adams, Jackson, Pike, Scioto, and Vinton counties.

HABITAT: Swamp woods, seeps in woods, and along streams.

HAZARDS: Habitat disturbance and destruction.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Poor. It is at its northern limit in southern Ohio.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect complete, mature fruiting material.

COMMENTS: This variety may be more frequent in southern Ohio than is currently known. It should be sought throughout southern Ohio, particularly in south central Ohio.

Bruederle and Fairbrothers (1986) found variety *brevicrinis* to be a distinct variety and that it is more similar genetically to *C. gynandra* than *C. crinita*. Their data also suggests that it should be considered for species rank.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Bruederle, L. P. and Fairbrothers D. E. 1986. Allozyme variation in populations of the *Carex crinita* complex (Cyperaceae), Systematic Botany 11(4): 583-594.

Gleason, H.A. and Cronquist, A. 1991. Manual of vascular plants of northeastern United States and adjacent Canada. 2nd ed. The New York Botanical Garden, Bronx NY. 910 pp.



Division of Natural Areas and Preserves
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Created: 9/2000 Richard Gardner