

***Carex pseudocyperus* L.**
Northern bearded sedge



Family: Cyperaceae

Synonyms: *Carex pseudo-cyperus* L.

Description: Herbaceous perennial up to 0.5; clustered from a short rhizome; inflorescences 4-15 cm; perigynia spreading to reflexed at maturity, strongly 12-20 veined; beak poorly defined, 1.2-2.2 mm, teeth straight or slightly spreading, 0.7-1.2 mm (FNA 2002).

Flowering/Fruiting: Late May to August

Similar Species: Closely resembles the widespread *Carex comosa*, but distinguished by the beaks of the perigynia; these two species occur in similar habitats and mixed populations are known.



Total Range: USA: CT, IA, IN, MA, ME, MI, MN, ND, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, VT, WI;
CAN: AB, MB, NB, NF, NS, ON, PE, QC, SK;
Eurasia.

Ohio Range: Lucas and Seneca counties.

Ohio Status: www.ohiodnr.com/dnap

Habitats: Full sun; swamps, wet thickets, stream, pond and lakeshores, depressions in wet meadows, marshes, often in shallow water (FNA 2002).

Threats: Habitat loss due to draining or flooding and invasive species.

Conservation Potential: The two known localities occur on public land including a population on a state nature preserve. Populations are both small (<10 & <50 individual clumps).

Inventory Guidelines: Collect complete, mature specimens.

Comments: This species should be sought in wetlands in counties bordering Lake Erie. It is easily confused with *Carex comosa*, which occurs in similar habitats. These two species grow in a mixed population in Lucas County. *Carex pseudocyperus* is far less frequent than *C. comosa* at that site.

The Springville Marsh SNP population has been increasing over the last 5 years.

Reports from Erie and Licking counties (Braun 1967) are in error.

Selected References:

Braun, E.L. 1967. The Monocotyledonae [of Ohio]: cat-tails to orchids. Ohio State Univ. Press, Columbus. 464 pp.

Flora of North America Editorial Committee, eds. 2002. Flora of North America North of Mexico. Vol. 23. New York and Oxford. 608 pp.

Voss, E.G. 1972. Michigan flora. Part I. Gymnosperms and monocots. Bull. Cranbrook Inst. of Sci. 55 and Univ. Michigan Herbarium, Bloomfield Hills, MI. xv + 488 pp.



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