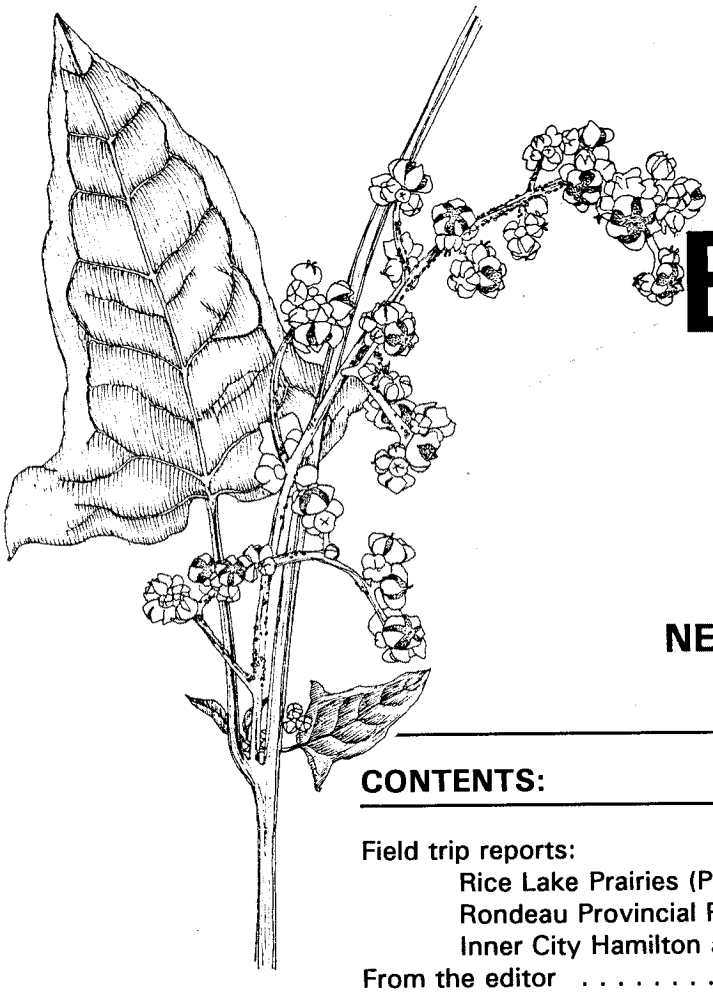

FIELD BOTANISTS OF ONTARIO

ISSN: 1180-1417

NEWSLETTER

Winter 1994
Volume 7(4)

CONTENTS:

Field trip reports:
- Rice Lake Prairies (P. McGaw) 3
- Rondeau Provincial Park (J. Crowe) 4
- Inner City Hamilton and Burlington Beach (E. McShane) 6

From the editor 7
Botanicalantics 8
Ontario Tree Atlas 9
Range extension notes:
- Adventive and naturalized species in the flora of Ontario (J. Pringle) 10
- *Carex gracillescens* new to Middlesex (W. Draper, J. Bowles & M. Oldham) . . . 15

INTRODUCTORY PLANT IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOP

An introductory workshop on plant identification and the use of simplified keys will be held on
Saturday, April 22 at
University of Guelph Herbarium
details of the workshop and an application form are enclosed with this newsletter

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FIELD TRIPS IN 1995

A new programme of FBO field trips will be announced in the next (Spring 1995) issue of the FBO Newsletter.

FIELD BOTANISTS of ONTARIO

NEWSLETTER
Published quarterly by the FBO
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The FBO is a non-profit organization founded in 1984 for those interested in botany and conservation in the province of Ontario.

President:	Bob Bowles 374 Grenville Ave., ORILLIA, Ontario L3V 7P7 Telephone: (705)-325-3149	
Treasurer:	Ilmar Talvila 12 Cranleigh Crt., ETOBICOKE, Ontario M9A 3Y3 Telephone: (416)-231-1752	
Vice-President:	Claudia Schaefer	(519)-837-8206
Secretary:	Heather Mackey	(416)-465-1324
Past President:	George Bryant	(416)-223-6284
Membership:	Bill McIlveen	(519)-853-3948
Field Trips:	Irene McIlveen	(519)-853-3948
Executive Member:	Madeline Austine	(519)-856-2089
	Justus Benckhuysen	(905)-524-0130
	Carole Ann Lacroix	(519)-824-3807
Editor:	Jane Bowles RR #3, THORNDALE, Ontario N0M 2P0 Telephone: (519)-461-1932	
Associate Editors:	Michael Oldham	(705)-741-3236
	Jeff Warren	(416)-267-4803

ILLUSTRATIONS

The drawings in this issue of the FBO Newsletter are by Jane Bowles and Irene McIlveen. The cover drawing, by Irene McIlveen is Halberd-leaved Atriplex (*Atriplex prostrata*).

RICE LAKE PRAIRIES

> "The high, sloping hills surrounding the fertile vale of Cold Springs were clothed with the blossoms of the gorgeous scarlet *Castilleja coccinea* or painted-cup; the large pure white blossoms of the lily-like *Trillium grandiflorum*; the delicate and fragile lilac geranium, whose graceful flowers woo the hand of the flower- gatherer, only to fade almost within his grasp; the golden *Cypripedium* or moccasin flower, so singular, so lovely in its colour and formation, waved heavily its yellow blossoms as the breeze shook the stems; and there ... the azure lupine claimed its place, shedding an almost heavenly tint upon the earth. Thousands of roses were blooming, mixed with the delicate scent of the feathery *Ceanothus* (New Jersey Tea)"

Thus Catherine Parr Traill, herself an avid botanist, describes the plants of the Rice Lake plains in her novel "Canadian Crusoes" published in 1852.

There were 14 botanic Crusoes, who in damp, "mauzy", "English-type" weather, followed James Kamstra into a much-altered landscape almost 150 years later.

We first visited a sandy prairie remnant dotted with Black Oaks (*Quercus velutina*), which are indicators of the Rice Lake moraine. Some plants which were also indicative of these areas were *Verbena stricta* (Hoary Vervain), *Potentilla arguta* (Tall Cinqfoil), *Anemone cylindrica* (Long-fruited Anemone), *Gnaphalium macounii* (Clammy Cudweed) (with a name like that it should be a big seller at White Rose!) and *Physalis heterophylla* (Clammy Ground-cherry) (well it was a clammy day!).

One plant we did see, mentioned by Catherine Parr Traill, was *Ceonothus americanus*, a nitrogen-fixing shrub whose tea was popular during the Revolutionary War. Round-leaved Dogwood (*Cornus rugosa*) was abundant along the remnant forest edges.

Our second stop gave us a glimpse of a landscape reminiscent of the southwest, with rolling grass-covered sand dunes and bare, sandy blow-outs with large patches of *Comptonia peregrina* (Sweetfern), also a spicy source of tea. An entomological digression took place here for *Neoconocephalus nebrascensis* (Cone-headed Katydid) found on *Poa compressa* (Canada Bluegrass) - and you thought plants had long names!

Frostweed (*Helianthemum bicknellii*) and Hare Figwort (*Scrophularia lanceolata*) were uncommon native plants (apparently the "fig" in figwort refers to "piles" for which these plants were used as a treatment).

Although we saw forests dominated by *Quercus alba* (White Oak), the hundreds of Monarch Butterflies (*Danaus plexippus*) we saw prefered to roost in stands of *Pinus sylvestris* (Scots Pine).

Convolvulus spithamaeus (Upright Bindweed), *Linum sulcatum* (Grooved Yellow Flax) - a first for me, *Sorghastrum nutans* (Indian Grass), *Ranunculus rhomboideus* (Prairie Buttercup) and *Penstemon hirsutus* (Hairy Beardtongue) were also noted.

At the last stop, we climbed a westward facing slope covered in *Andropogon gerardii* (Big Bluestem) where we discoverd a single *Botrychium multifidum* (Leathery Grape Fern) and the first *Lycaena phlaeas* (Little Copper) butterfly seen (at least by me) this year - a satisfying conclusion of a visit to a remarkably diverse botanical community, although now in remnants and in need of protection.

Let Catherine Parr Traill have the last words.

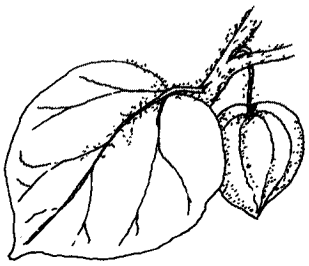
> "Our woods and clearings are now full of beautiful flowers ... which are flung carelessly from Nature's lavish hand among our woods and wilds ... a taste for flowers, which I will encourage as much as possible. It is a study that tends to refine and purify the mind, and can be made, by simple steps, a ladder to heaven ..."

References:

Traill, Catherine Parr. 1836. **The backwoods of Canada.** McClelland and Stewart (1966).

Traill, Catherine Parr. 1852. **Canadian Crusoes: a tale of the Rice Lake Plains.** Rupert Schieder (ed). Carleton University Press (1986).

Paul Mc Gaw



RONDEAU PROVINCIAL PARK FIELD TRIP

Eleven members took part in the field trip held in Rondeau Provincial Park on September 24, 1994. Mary Gartshore was leader. Club representative was Jane Bowles. Both Mary and Jane have considerable experience with surveys of the flora and fauna of this park. Rondeau celebrated its centenary this year. A good description of the area is to be found in the first annual report of the park superintendent in 1895:

> "The park consists of a sandy peninsula, known as Pointe aux Pins, jutting out from the east limit of Harwich, Kent County, into Lake Erie, and, no doubt owes its origins to the currents and waves of the lake, being composed almost wholly of sand and pebbles. It is attached to the mainland by a narrow neck, but it increases greatly in width as it leaves the shore ... the area of the park is 4446 acres, which does not include a block of about 500 acres ... held by the Dominion government .... It has been the custom for large numbers of cattle to be driven on to the Pointe to graze .... Swine were also herded on the Pointe.... Rondeau park contains probably the largest and finest block of timber left in this section of the province. It is still densely wooded in the upper part, and remains a fragment of the original forest which covered this part of Southern Ontario."

Since that time, of course, there has been a great deal of cottage development, both inside and outside the park. Deer were introduced in 1900 and, in 1930, relief workers "tidied up" the park by removing large old trees and clearing deadfall. Finally, Dutch Elm Disease attacked the large, old elms in recent years.

Despite all this, Mary and Jane assured us that some old growth still exists in the park and, will, no doubt, be all the more valued in future. Suffice it to say, that for most of its history, Rondeau has been "managed" with the recreational desires and comfort of people in mind; picnic sites were manicured, roads built, areas drained, the pretty deer encouraged, all with disastrous consequences for the natural vegetation. It was, perhaps, the deer crisis which precipitated a closer look at what was happening and from this has come a change in focus in the management of the park over the last two years. During the day we visited a number of different sites which illustrated both the past and future of the park.

The dominant forest species in Rondeau are maple and beech, typical of the temperate deciduous forest at this latitude. Isaac Gardiner, in 1895 also listed "ash, hickory (shagbark), basswood, whitewood (tulip tree), white oak, ... beech, elm, butternut, black walnut, pine and sassafras". All of these, except elm, were observed by us in 1994. In addition, we distinguished between Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*), Red Maple (*A. rubrum*) and Silver Maple (*A. saccharinum*), between Black Ash (*Fraxinus nigra*), White Ash (*F. americana*) and Pumpkin Ash (*F. profunda*) (with its strange inflated trunk base) as well as Black Oak, Red Oak and Chinquapin Oak (*Quercus velutina, Q. rubra* and *Q. muehlenbergii*). The Blue-beech (*Carpinus caroliniana*), also known as Ironwood, Hop Hornbeam (*Ostrya virginiana*) and Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*) were found in the understorey. White and Yellow Birch (*Betula papyrifera, B. allagheniensis*) are present, and some very large aspens (*Populus* spp.). The unusual height of many trees was very striking and is probably due to the high water table. A number of these tree species are Carolinian and near the northern edge of their range which makes the preservation of this area all the more important.

Our first stop of the day was at a large picnic site in a Black Oak savannah. Part of this has been left unmowed for one year and already prairie species are emerging from the seed bank which experiments have shown is still remarkably intact in Rondeau. We listed:

Andropogon gerardii	Big Bluestem
Spiranthes romanzoffiana	Hooded Ladies'-tresses
Aster oolentangiensis	Azure Aster
Aster pilosus	Heath Aster
Aster lateriflorus	Calico Aster
Antennaria sp.	Pussy-toes
Physalis heterophylla	Clammy Ground-cherry
Fragaria virginiana	Wild Strawberry
Solidago nemoralis	Gray Goldenrod
Conyza canadensis	Horseweed

There was quite a dense soil cover of a *Cladonia* lichens and moss. Periodic burning has been suggested in order to maintain the prairie characteristics of this area.

A few metres away, on a sand ridge just behind the beach, Little Bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) as well as Big Bluestem were present. Indian grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*) and Few-flowered Panic Grass (*Panicum oligosanthes*) were also recorded. There was a good stand of Puccoon (*Lithospermum caroliniense*), and Clammy Ground-cherry, Riverbank

Grape (*Vitis riparia*) and hybrid poplar seedlings were in this area as was *Catalpa* sp., an introduced species. Nearby, on the beach, we observed Beach Grass (*Ammophila breviligulata*) an important element in stabilizing the wind drifted sand. It has the ability to survive being totally buried and will grow up through several feet of sand. The Great Lakes are considered to be the ideal location for this grass as it does not respond well to salt and temperatures are within its optimum range. Poison Ivy (*Rhus radicans*) is present and is rapidly recovering from deer overgrazing. Also recorded were Canada Wild-rye (*Elymus canadensis*) and Seaside Spurge (*Chamaesyce polygonifolia*). The latter is an Atlantic coastal species.

From here we drove to the visitor centre where the displays enabled us to understand more about the deer problem. Put in a nutshell, the carrying capacity of the park area is 100 to 125 deer but in 1990 the count was 600. As Mary pointed out to us, the problem is compounded by the deer moving out of the park and foraging on the surrounding grain fields during the winter. There is no period of starvation for deer in Kent County and their fertility is, consequently, abnormally high. Hence, the much publicized deer cull. A short walk through the forest showed clearly the effect that deer have had on the ground flora but, after only one year of reduced impact, the recovery is dramatic, Tulip Tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) and other seedlings are sprouting prolifically. In 1978 some exclosures were built that deer had no access. The contrast of the vegetation within and outside the fence is dramatic. Peering through the fence, we observed huge White Baneberry (*Actaea pachypoda*), Red Trillium (*Trillium erectum*), Jack-in-the-pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*), Sweet Cicely (*Osmorhiza claytonii*), Virginia Creeper (*Parthenocissus inserta*), Bellwort (*Uvularia grandiflora*), Purple-flowering Raspberry (*Rubus odoratus*), Bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*) and a tremendous thicket of young trees. Outside, the ground looked barren by comparison being dominated by grasses, sedges and the occasional Barberry (*Berberis vulgaris*) bush.

Geologically, the area consists of old beach ridges separated by moist swales. Mary pointed out that one of the effects of the deer imbalance has been to make the swales wetter than they normally would have been which, again, further affects the natural vegetation favouring species such as Cattails (*Typha latifolia*), Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*) and Water-parsnip (*Sium suave*). To complicate things further, the intense cultivation of the surrounding area with massive use of fertilizers and pesticides for many years now has further affected the ground water and fertility of Rondeau. One last factor in the equation was a rise in water levels in Lake Erie over recent years which killed many of the larger trees. One could say, that, considering the bombardment of adverse forces, it is a miracle that the vegetation has survived at all. It is to be hoped that the more enlightened era of park management, which has begun so hopefully, will enable Rondeau to become a truly natural area over the next one hundred years. The day certainly provided food for thought and, for many of us, exposure to unfamiliar species. Many thanks to Mary and Jane.

Joan Crowe

FROM THE EDITOR

This issue of the FBO Newsletter represents my final effort as Editor. I am pleased to tell you that a replacement team has been found. Justus Benckhuysen, from the Royal Botanical Gardens will be taking over as Editor in March, assisted by Carole Ann Lacroix (University of Guelph Herbarium) and Madeline Austine (Long Point Bird Observatory). Mike Oldham and Jeff Warren have agreed to remain as Associate Editors.

I have greatly enjoyed my tenure as Editor and my term on the FBO Executive. Once again, thank you to everyone who has contributed material and helped to build the newsletter.

JB

INNER CITY FIELD TRIP AND BURLINGTON BEACH

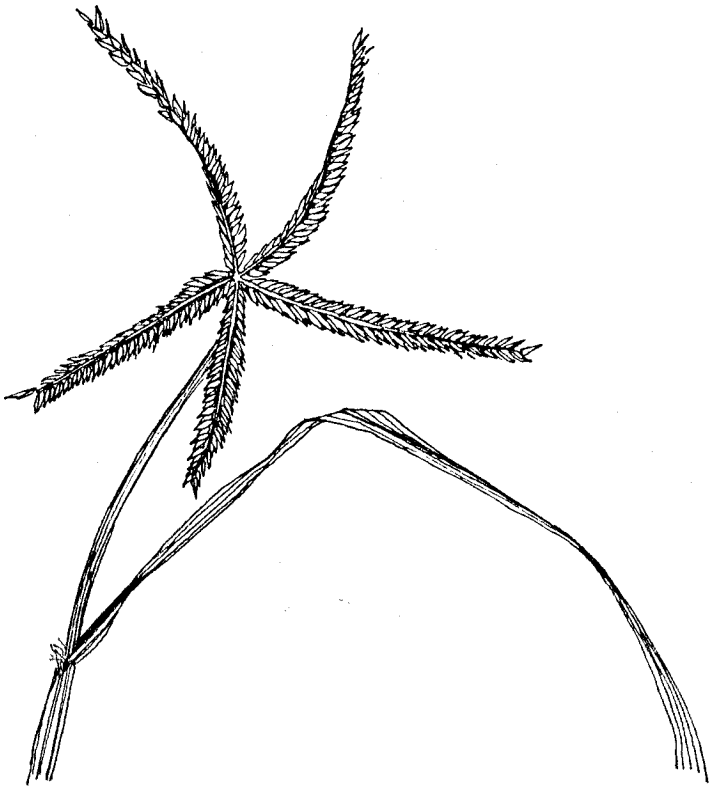
The Royal Botanical Gardens (RBG), Hamilton is meeting place, on October 15, 1994, for seven participants and leader Dr. James Pringle, plant taxonomist of the RBG, and adjunct Professor of Biology at McMaster University.

The windy, cool day makes viewing pleasant and no outdoor trails have ever been as smooth and straight as the sidewalks of Hamilton. A pre-mailed print-out prepares us for the emphasis of this trip - to appreciate how plants adapt to an urban environment. Consider the conditions - little soil in sidewalk cracks or pavement crevices, little water and the possibilities of being stepped on, mowed down, dumped on, paved over or graded. Reflect on the efficient colonization necessary, and practised, by various species. So we see Queen Anne's Lace (*Daucus carota*) in all stages of development; an example of continuous production of flowers from spring or early summer until the onset of winter. Fluctuating or extending ranges is represented by the Nodding Foxtail (*Setaria faberi*) which was first reported in Ontario in 1978 and is now seen all over. An element of surprise is always present, with the possibility of seeing something new in the adventive flora of Ontario.

Our morning trail follows Cathcart Street, tours the old railway line at Ferguson Street, follows Barton Street, and continues through a back alley that meets Wilson Street. Even in mid-October most plants were recognizable.

A list includes *Setaria pumila* (Yellow Foxtail), *S. verticillata* (Bristly Foxtail), *S. viridis* (Green Foxtail), *S. italica* (Foxtail Millet), *Polygonum arenastrum* (Knotweed), *P. achoreum* (Striate Knotweed), *Vicia americana* (Vetch), *Solidago canadensis* (Canada Goldenrod), *Cichorium itybus* (Chicory), *Ambrosia artemisiifolia* (Common Ragweed), *Sonchus arvensis* (Smooth Perennial Sow-thistle), *S. oleraceus* (Annual Sow-thistle), *Cirsium vulgare* (Bull Thistle) (past flowering), *Arctium minus* (Common Burdock) (past), *A. lappa* (Great Burdock) (past) and *Tanacetum parthenium* (Tansy).

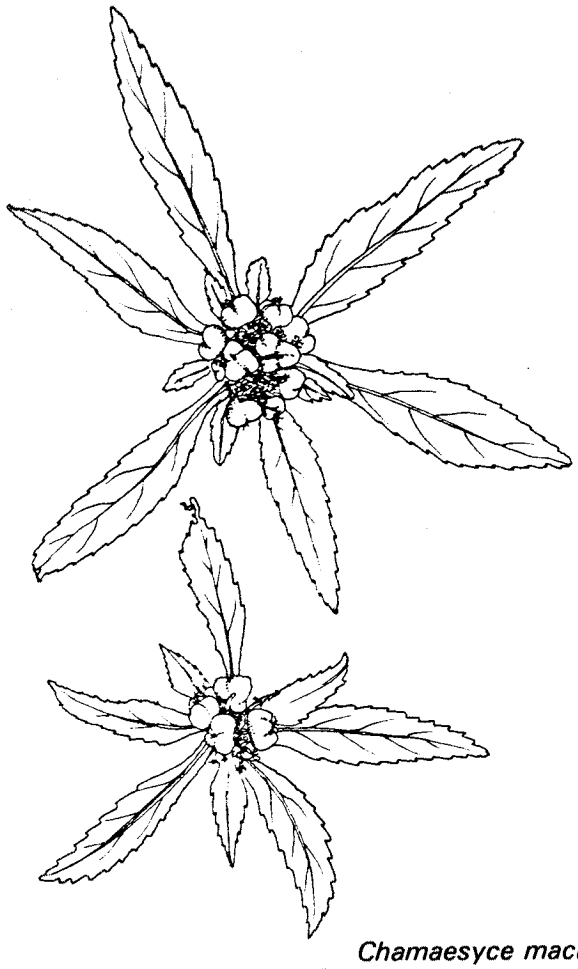
The railroad yields *Kochia scoparia* (Summer-cypress), *Bromus tectorum* (Downy Chess), *Lepidium virginicum* (Poor-man's Pepper-grass) (past), *Medicago lupulina* (Black Medic), *Ailanthus altissima* (Tree-of Heaven), *Galinsoga quadriradiata* (Hairy Galinsoga), *Dactylis glomerata* (Orchard Grass), *Poa compressa* (Canada Bluegrass), *Panicum capillare* (Witch Grass), *Festuca rubra* (Red Fescue), *Hordeum jubatum* (Squirrel-tail Grass), *Sporobolus cryptandrus* (Sand Dropseed), *Aster pilosus* (Hairy Aster), *Aster ericoides* (Heath Aster), *Oenothera parviflora* (Small-flowered Evening-primrose), *Salsola kali* (Russian-thistle), *Aster lanceolatus* (Panicled Aster), *Euthamia graminifolia* (Grass-leaved Goldenrod), *Solidago altissima* (Late Goldenrod), *Lepidium campestre* (Field Pepper-grass), *Chenopodium album* (Lamb's-quarters), *Silene vulgaris* (Bladder Campion), *Potentilla recta* (Rough-fruited Cinquefoil) (past), *Rumex crispus* (Curly Dock) (past), *Equisetum hyemale* (Common Scouring-rush), *Muhlenbergia mexicana* (Satin Grass), *Conyza canadensis* (Horseweed), *Medicago sativa* (Alfalfa), *Eragrostis cilianensis* (Stink Grass), *Chamaesyce maculata* (Hairy-fruited Spurge), *Solanum dulcamara* (Climbing Nightshade) and *Amaranthus retroflexus* (Redroot Pigweed).



Eleusine indica

One lush area was on a Tim Horton corner, were we saw two *Ambrosia* (Ragweed) plants, one female and all pistils the other mainly male. *Solanum nigrum* (Black Nightshade) with berries black, *Sisymbrium altissimum* (Tumble Mustard) that has lost all its leaves, *Amaranthus blitoides* (Prostate Pigweed) that is adapted to being stepped on

without being broken and an *Atriplex* that reveals an inflorescence like tiny sand crystals when viewed through the hand lens, all grow here. So does *Eleusine indica* (Goose-grass) first reported in the 19th century, and now present on inner city sidewalks. The hardy Common Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*) lifts and breaks through the Tim Horton pavement.



Chamaesyce maculata

We return to the RBG for lunch where Dr. Pringle invites us to use the large tables in the staff lounge to identify several plant species with the help of floras by Morton and Venn (1990), and Gleason (1958). A newspaper article on the autumn harvest and preparation of common edible roots catches my attention. I leave others to the detective work as I read about making coffee from Dandelion, Chicory and Great Burdock, all of which we've seen today. By lunch's end the other's have named *Polygonum achoreum* and a *Euphorbia* species.

After lunch we set out for Burlington Beach. A small parking area off Eastman Road, with the mythical name of Pandora's Lane, gives free access to the beach. The wind is stronger here. Monarch butterflies (*Danaus plexippus*) cling to supports while waiting to begin their migration flight. I check some wings to see if they are banded. We see the remains of many cormorants electrocuted by the overhead power lines.

A list from our stroll includes *Euphorbia dentata* (Toothed Spurge), *E. peplus* (Petty Spurge), *Chamaesyce polygonifolia* (Seaside Spurge), *E. glyptosperma* (Engraved Spurge), *Berteroa incana* (Hoary Alyssum), *Xanthium strumarium* (Cocklebur), *Cenchrus longispinus* (Long-spined Sandbur), *Picris hieracioides* (Bitterweed), *Nepeta cataria* (Catnip) (past), *Cakile edentula* (Sea Rocket), *Andropogon virginicus* (Broom-sedge), *Saponaria officinalis* (Bouncing Bet), *Diplotaxis tenuifolia* (Narrow-leaved Wall Rocket), *Helianthus tuberosus* (Jerusalem Artichoke) (past), *Mirabilis nyctaginea* (Wild Four-o'clock) (past), *Solanum nigrum* and *Physalis alkekengi* (Chinese Lantern).

On our return along the beach we find an *Commelina communis* (Asiatic Dayflower), with its two well-developed blue petals and one vestigial pale petal. Dr. Pringle explains how this plant was named after the three Commelin brothers. Two became noted Dutch botanists, the third died before accomplishing anything noteworthy, the story is represented by the three petals. A piece of this plant has rooted and been ever-blooming on my window-sill.

The next day Dr. Pringle calls. He has more positively identified *Triplasis purpurea* (Sand Grass) and *Cenchrus longispinus* for us. He has been a superb leader, and this informative trip has yielded new insights into urban plants.

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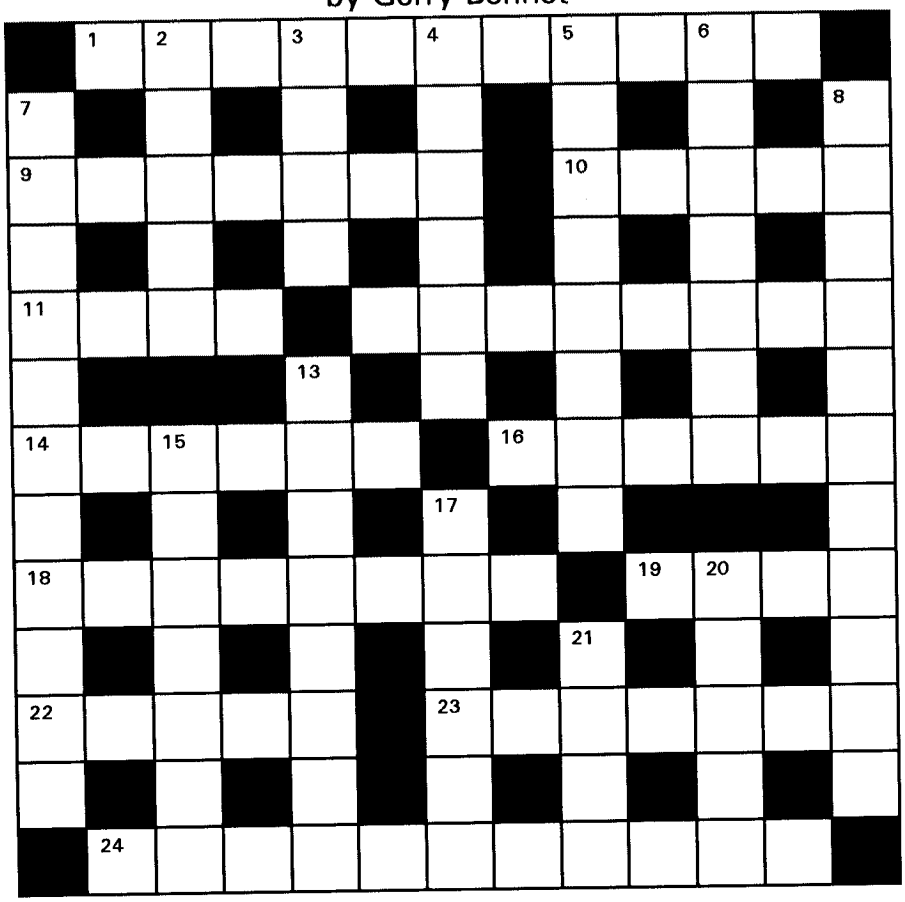
Gleason, H.A. 1958. The new Britton and Brown illustrated flora. Second Printing, slightly revised. 3 volumes. New York Botanical Gardens, New York.

Morton, J.K. and J.M. Venn. 1990. A checklist of the flora of Ontario: vascular plants. University of Waterloo Biology Series #34. University of Waterloo, Ontario. 218 pp.

Elaine McShane

botanicalantics

by Gerry Bennet



ACROSS

1. A Finn (blue?) [11]
9. Units of one [7]
10. Potato State [5]
11. Asian tree or poison therefrom [4]
12. From the oldie, _____ __ _ million years [5,2,1]
14. Tall, tuberous beauty [6]
16. Ant acid [6]
18. Genus of Andean trees [8]
19. Play on grass [4]
22. Century plant [5]
23. More wanting [7]
24. Four seeded (as in *Vicia*) [11]

DOWN

2. Genus of lichen [5]
3. Edible *Brassica* [4]
4. Lily weekend [6]
5. Fleabane genus [8]
6. Acceptance of one's plight [7]
7. Fern family [11]
8. Nicotine patch [7,4]
13. Top speed (or a head dress) [4,4]
15. *Hyoscyamus niger* [7]
17. Pineapple genus [6]
20. *Papaver* drug [5]
21. Hereditary factor [4]

Answers in the next FBO Newsletter.

!! DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP !!

ONTARIO TREE ATLAS

Background
The relative abundance and distribution of native trees in Ontario have never been comprehensively catalogued. Much of the information currently available is in the form of generalized range maps. Considering the ecological and economic importance of trees and forests to Ontario, this is somewhat surprising. In view of the anticipated impacts of global climate change and the on-going human activity in forested areas, it is important to understand the underlying ecological factors that influence and control the distribution of trees.

The **ONTARIO TREE ATLAS** proposes a systematic survey of Ontario forests to provide a refined "snapshot" of the distribution and abundance of the trees.

The success of atlas projects with birds, mammals an herpetofauna in Ontario provides and excellent framework of methodologies upon which to build. Trees have several key features which make them relatively easy to inventory: i) there is a relatively small number of species (± 85), ii) trees are large and easy to see, iii) most trees can be accurately identified, iv) generally trees can be surveyed all year because they are immobile. A published Atlas and a data base will be available at the end of the project.

The Project
The Ontario Tree Atlas is a five-year collaborative project between The Arboretum, University of Guelph and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, Ontario Forest Research Institute. Participation ofother interested organizations will be sought in order to enhance support for the project. A provincial steering committee will guide the project, resolving details, promoting the project and actively seeking financial support. The Atlas project will be managed by a Coordinator who will be located at the Arboretum, University of Guelph.

It is anticipated that a province-wide network of volunteers will carry out the data collection. Potential volunteers may be recruited from naturalist clubs, environmental groups, Ministry of Natural Resources and Conservation Authority staff and other organizations. Guidance and support of the volunteers is expected to be provided by Regional Coordinators. They will provide assistance to the volunteers and linkage to the provincial coordinator and the steering committee. Regional workshops in tree identification and survey techniques will be coordinated through The Arboretum's extensive education program.

For more information contact:
Rob Guthrie *or* Rob Rogan
Ontario Tree Atlas Project
The Arboretum, University of Guelph
Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1

Phone: (519)-824-4120 Ext. 3615
Fax: (519)-836-1855

RANGE EXTENSION NOTES

CONTRIBUTIONS TO RANGE EXTENSION NOTES

We encourage members to contribute reports to this section. The following basic information should be included in a range extension note:

1. Scientific, common and family name of the plant.
2. Precise location of the record.
3. Collection and herbarium information. In general, range extensions should be supported by a specimen deposited in a recognized institutional herbarium. In some cases an identifiable photograph deposited in an institutional herbarium will suffice.
4. Collection date.
5. Significance of the record, e.g. new county record, etc. A map can be used to show the new record(s) in relation to previous records of the species.
6. Notes: this can include remarks on identification, local abundance, habitat, etc.

NOTES ON SOME ADVENTIVE AND NATURALIZED SPECIES IN THE FLORA OF ONTARIO[1]

James S. Pringle
Royal Botanical Gardens, Box 399, Hamilton, Ontario L8N 3H8

Since Fernald published his revision of **Gray's Manual** in 1950, many species then unknown as wild plants in North America have become abundantly naturalized in Ontario and in other parts of the *Gray's Manual* range. Examples include *Epilobium parviflorum* Schreb., *Heracleum mantegazzianum* Sommier & Levier, *Hydrocharis morsus-ranae* L., *Lonicera maackii* (Rupr.) Maxim., *Sedum sexangulare* L., and *Vincetoxicum rossicum* (Kleopov) Barbar. Other species, which were known to occur only south of Lake Erie in Fernald's time, have subsequently been reported as naturalized components of the Canadian flora, e.g. *Holosteum umbellatum* L., *Setaria faberi* R.A.W. Herrm., *Sorghum halepense* (L.) Pers., and *Tagetes minuta* L. Because additional species are so frequently becoming naturalized in our flora, and because some are rapidly increasing in abundance, records of the appearance of such species in additional areas are of much interest to students of floristics.

This paper reports some noteworthy records of adventive and naturalized plant species in the flora of Ontario, provides guides to the recognition of some of these species, and discusses the nomenclature of two that have been listed under different scientific names in recent floristic literature. Some of these reports are based on observations at old farm and village sites in Bruce and Grey counties and Muskoka and Parry Sound districts. Emberson, now uninhabited, was a rural community southeast of Huntsville; Malcolm, no longer recognizable as a village, was southwest of Chesley; and Dufferin Bridge and North Seguin were communities on the Nipissing colonization road west of Sprucedale. Strathaven, which retains its identity through its still-functioning Baptist church, was a community east of Chatsworth (Brown, 1978). More precise locality data are given in the specimen citations. Abbreviations for herbaria follow Holmgren et al. (1990).

I am grateful to Dr. James P. Goltz, of the Provincial Veterinary Laboratory, Fredericton, New Brunswick, for information on previously known records for some of these species in Muskoka District; to Dr. Bruce D. Parfitt, of the Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, for information on *Thalictrum* compiled for the *Flora of North America North of Mexico*, in preparation; and to the Auxiliary of the Royal Botanical Gardens for support of field work for the study and collection of "heritage plants."

Acer pseudoplatanus L. Sycamore maple
Hamilton-Wentworth Region (Wentworth Co.): Hamilton, between Canadian National Railway and Hamilton Harbour below Harvey Park (Burlington Heights), just west of Stuart Street railway yards; seedling ca. 4 m tall, one of many seedlings of diverse size at this locality. *J.S. Pringle 2602*, 2 August 1994 (HAM, TRT).

Fernald (1950) reported that in parts of the *Gray's Manual* range *Acer pseudoplatanus* was "much planted", freely establishing seedlings in fence-rows, on roadsides, etc. Nevertheless, when Scoggan's (1978-1979) *Flora of Canada* was written, although this species was known to persist after planting in many localities, the only record of its actually spreading in Canada appeared to be a collection from Nova Scotia. As recently as 1990, Morton & Venn listed *A. pseudoplatanus* in Ontario only as "planted but not self-sown." Nor was it listed as spreading in any of the recent checklists for Ontario counties, etc., consulted in the present study. Recently, Brian McHattie and I observed that in Hamilton this species not only persists after planting but spreads extensively, producing large numbers of successful seedlings. *Acer pseudoplatanus* was evidently planted many years ago in Harvey Park (Burlington Heights) and Dundurn Park above what was perhaps at that time the Great Western Railway, and possibly also on the steep slopes below the parks, although the trees on the slopes appear more likely to be spontaneous seedlings. It has now colonized the slopes between the parks and the railway and also the strip of land, varying in width, between the railway and the harbour. Seedlings also spring up along

[1]Contribution No. 86 from the Royal Botanical Gardens, Hamilton, Ontario.

the tracks, although in that situation they are periodically cut or sprayed. Hundreds of plants, ranging from new seedlings to trees of fruiting size, now occur near the ca. 2 km of railway between the Desjardins Canal bridge and the Stuart Street railway yards.

Euphrasia stricta D. Wolff ex J. Lehm. (*E. rigidula* Jordan). Stiff eyebright
Muskoka Distr.: in old road to former farm site ± parallel to and ca. 0.2 km S of road to Emberson, just E of road N from Britannia Road at Seely, NW part of Lot 25, Concession 10, Brunel Twp. (now part of Town of Huntsville); in formerly cleared area, becoming wooded but still open around outcrops, etc., in gravelly soil with mosses. *J.S. Pringle 2583*, 22 July 1993 (TRT).

Morton & Venn (1990) listed four species of *Euphrasia* as occurring in Ontario. Two of these are arctic and boreal species native to northern Ontario. The other two, *E. nemorosa* (Pers.) Wallr. and *E. stricta*, are now generally believed to be naturalized rather than native in North America (Sell & Yeo, 1970; Downie et al., 1988; Downie & McNeill, 1988). All early records for the naturalized species were from sites near the Atlantic coast. According to Downie & McNeill (1988), *E. stricta* was first found in Ontario in 1969, and all records prior to 1976 were from the Ottawa-Carleton Region and Grenville County. The only other Ontario records reported by Downie & McNeill were from Manitoulin Island, where this species was discovered in 1976, although initially misidentified, and from another locality on the same island in 1981; and from Algonquin Provincial Park, where it was discovered in 1985. Subsequently, *E. stricta* has been found near Highway 118 between Bracebridge and Vankoughnet (J.P. Goltz, pers. comm., 23 Sept. 1993, 15 Nov. 1994). The present record, therefore, is the second for Muskoka District. Its occurrence at this site, relatively remote from any route now used by vehicular traffic, supports Downie & McNeill's statement that *E. stricta* is rapidly expanding its range westward.

Filipendula rubra (Hill) Robinson. Queen-of-the-prairie
Muskoka Distr.: around ruins of old farm buildings between Seely and Emberson, W side of road N from Britannia Road, just NE of intersection with road diverging NW to Lot 23 and ca. 1.3 km by road N of Britannia Road, S end of Lot 24, Concession 10, Brunel Twp. (now part of Town of Huntsville); many plants in old field still largely dominated by herbaceous vegetation. *J.S. Pringle 2585*, 22 July 1993 (TRT).

Filipendula rubra, a handsome species native to the North American prairies, occasionally spreads from cultivation east of its natural range, and has thus been reported in Lambton and Peel counties, Ontario (Scoggan, 1978-1979; Webber, 1984), and more recently from two localities in Haliburton County (Skelton & Skelton, 1991). Although it probably occurs in some additional localities, Ontario records remain few. It has, however, been found naturalized at two other sites in Muskoka District, near Gravenhurst and Glen Orchard, respectively (J.P. Goltz, pers. comm., 23 Sept. 1993, 15 Nov. 1994, 25 Nov. 1994). Between Seely and Emberson, it has not only become established near the building site noted above in greater abundance than was likely when it was cultivated, but has also given rise to another colony by the roadside south of the junction (in Lot 24, Concession 9).

Filipendula ulmaria (L.) Maxim. Queen-of-the-meadow
Muskoka Distr.: Acton Island, near Bala, roadside low area. *D.M. Davies s.n.*, 20 July 1993 (HAM).

Filipendula ulmaria, a native of Europe, has more frequently been reported escaped from cultivation in eastern North America than has *F. rubra*, but it has not hitherto been reported from Muskoka District (J.P. Goltz, pers. comm., 15 Nov. 1994). On Acton Island, according to Dr. Davies, *F. ulmaria* had presumably spread from some nearby planting, but was not in the immediate vicinity of any evident site of a former garden.

Myrrhis odorata (L.) Scop. European sweet cicely
Manitoulin District: road allowance, Manitowaning, Manitoulin Island, *G. & P.H. Du Boulay 4729*, 17 June 1970 (HAM).

Myrrhis odorata, which is occasionally cultivated as a culinary herb, has rarely escaped from cultivation in North America. It has only once thus been reported in Ontario, from St. Thomas (Scoggan, 1978-1979; Morton & Venn, 1990). Even this record was omitted from the list of the wild plants of Elgin County recently compiled by Oldham et al. (1991; also earlier lists by Stewart cited therein).

The leaves of *M. odorata* are more finely dissected than those of the native sweet cicely species (*Osmorhiza* spp.) and are often larger. They are conspicuously pubescent on and near the margins, less densely so on the lower surface, and sparsely so on the upper surface. Its fruits (immature in the specimen) have a nearly cylindric body ca. 15 mm long and 3 mm in diameter at maturity, with a beak (distinguished from the style-bases) ca. 3 mm long, and are smooth (in contrast to the bristly fruits of *Osmorhiza*) and sharply angled but not winged. The umbellets are subtended by sharp-tipped, hairy, reflexed bracts similar to those of the common *Osmorhiza* spp. but shorter and broader; the primary umbels lack bracts.

Plantago psyllium L. (*P. indica* L.; *P. arenaria* Waldst. & Kit.). Branched, leafy-stemmed, or sand plantain
Hamilton-Wentworth Region (Wentworth Co.): Hamilton, along railway below Harvey Park (Burlington Heights), just west of Stuart Street railway yards, growing in ballast between tracks. *J.S. Pringle 2601* (HAM, LKHD, OAC, TRT).

Plantago psyllium is rare or at most uncommon as a naturalized species in Canada (Bassett, 1973), and has not hitherto been reported for the Hamilton-Wentworth Region (Goodban, in press).

The name *P. psyllium* has been applied to two different species, as noted by Cronquist (1959), whose nomenclatural conclusions were followed by Bassett (1973), Scoggan (1978-1979), Gleason & Cronquist (1991), and others. The species reported here is *P. psyllium* L. 1753, i.e., the *P. psyllium* of the authors cited above. It is not *P. psyllium* L. 1759 nor that of Fernald (1950).

Rosa gallica L. Apothecaries' rose
Muskoka Distr.: abandoned farm site, S side of road, Emberson, ca. 1 km E of road N from Britannia Road, N part of Lot 28, Concession 10, Brunel Twp. (now part of Town of Huntsville); in old fields with *Agrostis gigantea* Roth and *Festuca brevipila* Tracey. *J.S. Pringle 2581*, 22 July 1993 (TRT).

Parry Sound Distr.: near roadside at old house site, W side of Nipissing Road between Dufferin Bridge and Highway 518 N of Seguin Falls; in open area with *Hemerocallis fulva* L. *J.S. Pringle 2590*, 23 July 1993 (TRT).

At Emberson and at the site between Emberson and Seely where *Filipendula rubra* (above) and *Rosa majalis* (below) were collected, naturalized *Rosa gallica* has multi-petaled ("double") flowers with deep rose-red petals, and appears to be the long- and widely cultivated form called cv. Officinalis or the apothecaries' rose. The plants in the Parry Sound District--at the site noted above and at two sites farther north on the Nipissing Road, viz., spreading from plantings in St. John's Anglican Cemetery at Dufferin Bridge, and at North Seguin where *R. majalis* was collected--likewise have multi-petaled flowers, but these appeared in the field to have lighter pink petals and may represent a different selection. In all of these localities, *R. gallica* appeared to have increased considerably and spread significant distances since it was cultivated. This rose frequently sets fruit, but spreading by rhizomes is probably much more consequential at any individual locality. The shallowly subterranean rhizomes elongate rapidly, and could well have covered substantial distances in the century or so available to them at these sites.

Rosa gallica, as represented by the apothecaries' rose, is frequently found near abandoned building sites in acid-soil regions eastward, e.g. in Vermont, where this species was reported to be "established in many places" as early as 1904 (Eggleston & Brainerd, 1904), New Hampshire, Maine, and New Brunswick. It has also been reported "escaped from cultivation to roadsides and fields" at a few sites in Michigan (Voss, 1985), although it is less frequently encountered there. *Rosa gallica* somewhat resembles the cabbage rose, *R.* ×*centifolia* L., which has been reported persisting after cultivation in Lambton County, Ontario (Scoggan, 1978-1979), and which is believed to be of hybrid origin, with *R. gallica* being one of the four species that appear to be represented in its ancestry. Although, because of its hybrid origin, *R.* ×*centifolia* constitutes a highly variable complex, *R. gallica* generally differs in its lower stature; thicker, distinctly rugose leaflets, with the tertiary and finer veins impressed on the upper surface and raised on the lower; somewhat fewer prickles, with the largest being more slender and none being hooked; and erect rather than more or less nodding flowers.

The present report is the first for *R. gallica* in Muskoka District (J.P. Goltz, pers. comm., 23 Sept. 1993, 15 Nov. 1994).

Rosa majalis Herrm. (*R. cinnamomea* L. 1759, non L. 1753). Cinnamon rose
Muskoka Distr.: around ruins of old farm buildings between Seely and Emberson, W side of road N from Britannia Road, just NE of intersection with road diverging NW to Lot 23 and ca. 1.3 km by road N of Britannia Road, S end of Lot 24, Concession 10, Brunel Twp. (now part of Town of Huntsville); in old field still largely dominated by herbaceous vegetation. *J.S. Pringle 2584*, 22 July 1993 (TRT).

Parry Sound Distr.: in abandoned farmland, E of junction of Nipissing Road and Orange Valley Road, at site of former community of North Seguin; in apparent former pasture (building site presumably present nearby but not located), still largely open but being invaded by shrubs. *J.S. Pringle 2591*, 23 July 1993 (TRT).

The cinnamon rose has already been reported as a naturalized species in Ontario, but under the name *R. cinnamomea* L. Recent nomenclatural research has shown that the name *R. cinnamomea* is not correctly applied to this species. Its designation as *R. majalis* Herrm. in the present paper follows the revised edition of Gleason & Cronquist's (1991) *Manual*, as well as *Flora Europaea* and several of the more recently published standard references on cultivated plants.

Most of the known sites at which *R. majalis* is naturalized in Ontario are in the easternmost part of the province. It is common as a naturalized species in Nova Scotia, where it is said to have been "apparently one of the most popular of the old-fashioned roses" (Roland & Smith, 1969). It is also commonly found around old house sites and in old cemeteries in New Hampshire and Vermont. Like *R. gallica*, it has been reported from scattered localities in Michigan (Voss, 1985), although it is much less common there than farther east.

Rosa majalis was more abundantly naturalized than *R. gallica* at all of the sites mentioned above except that it was absent at the site nearest Seguin Falls. Although in these Ontario populations, as at most North American sites where it is naturalized, *R. majalis* is represented by a double-flowered, sterile form from which the flower falls in its entirety after the petals wither, this species likewise produces elongating rhizomes and forms extensive colonies. Two sizeable colonies of this form of *R. majalis* were also noted at Cheddar, a deserted village site near Cardiff in Haliburton County.

Rosa pimpinellifolia L. (*R. spinosissima* L., at least sensu recent manuals), the burnet rose or Scots rose, has also spread from plantings within the cemetery at Dufferin Bridge (*J.S. Pringle 2588*, TRT) and was observed to produce fruits there. Since these three species generally become naturalized only in regions with sandy, acid soils rather than in the calcareous-soil regions of southern Ontario for which more county floristic lists have been published, they are less well known in the Ontario flora than other naturalized species of *Rosa*, i.e., *R. canina* L., *R. eglanteria* L. (*R. rubiginosa* L.), and *R. multiflora* Murray.

Symphytum* ×*uplandicum Nyman (derived from *S. asperum* Lepechin × *S. officinale* L.). Russian comfrey
Grey Co.: Strathaven, ca. 10.5 km E of Chatsworth; several plants in front yard (originally gravel) of disused schoolhouse. *J.S. Pringle 2598*, 6 July 1994 (TRT).

This taxon of hybrid derivation, formerly cultivated as a forage plant (at least in Europe, where it has become naturalized), was not listed in the naturalized flora of Ontario by Morton & Venn (1990). It differs most conspicuously from common comfrey, *S. officinale*, in its deep violet-blue corollas. Other differences include the slender stamen filaments, which are much narrower than the anthers, the narrowly lanceolate-triangular corolla scales, and the much less strongly decurrent leaves.

Thalictrum aquilegiifolium L. Greater meadow-rue
Grey Co.: Ca. 10 km E of Chatsworth, near SW corner of intersection of roads E from Massie and S from Strathaven; one plant (pistillate) seen, with grasses and other tall herbaceous vegetation in road allowance. *J.S. Pringle 2595*, 6 July 1994 (TRT).

This species, which is native to Europe, somewhat resembles the familiar native tall or late meadow-rue, *T. pubescens* Pursh (*T. polygamum* Muhl. ex Barton), but differs in its bright purple ovaries (drying darker) that contrast strikingly with the white stigmas, as well as in the texture and other characters of its leaflets. This plant, ca. 1.4 m tall (the specimen representing only a small part of the inflorescence plus a near-basal leaf), was growing among grasses, bedstraws, and other common roadside species; there were no ruins or other escaped

ornamental species in the immediate vicinity. *Thalictrum aquilegiifolium* is relatively infrequently encountered in cultivation in North America and is probably a recent arrival in Grey County or at least in the vicinity of Massie. It was not listed as a naturalized species in Ontario by Morton & Venn (1990), but has been noted as occasionally escaping from cultivation in Québec (B.D. Parfitt, pers. comm. 5 Aug. 1994).

Other species:
The following records are less worthy of note, because the species are more widely naturalized in Ontario, but they may be of interest to compilers of county or local lists, or to those chronicling the spread of individual species: *Centaurea nigra* L. ssp. *nigra*, black knapweed, *J.S. Pringle 2599* (HAM), *Lathyrus latifolius* L., broad-leaved everlasting pea, *J.S. Pringle 2596* (HAM), and *L. sylvestris* L., narrow-leaved everlasting pea, *J.S. Pringle 2597* (HAM), all Grey Co., at Strathaven, growing with *Symphytum* ×*uplandicum* (above); *Lysimachia punctata* L., dotted yellow loosestrife, Bruce Co., roadside at Malcolm, *J.S. Pringle 2594* (HAM, OAC, TRT); *Cenchrus longispinus* (Hack.) Fern., long-spined sandbur, *J.S. Pringle 2612* (HAM), *Setaria faberi* R.A.W. Herrm., nodding foxtail, *J.S. Pringle 2622* (HAM, OAC), and *Verbena bracteata* Lag. & Rodr., prostrate vervain, *J.S. Pringle 2613* (HAM), all Hamilton-Wentworth Region, CP Rail Aberdeen Yard, along Studholme Road, Hamilton, and *C. longispinus*, *J.S. Pringle 2615* (OAC), also on "Beach Strip," Hamilton, between Pandora Avenue and canal entrance to Hamilton Harbour; *Eupatorium altissimum* L., tall thoroughwort, *J.S. Pringle 2603* (HAM), and *Setaria faberi*, *J.S. Pringle 2604* (HAM, LKHD, OAC, TRT), both Hamilton-Wentworth Region, along abandoned sidings near former site of Canadian National Railway station, Dundas, and *S. faberi*, *J.S. Pringle 2619* (HAM, OAC), also by abandoned railway, Ferguson Avenue between Cannon and Barton streets, Hamilton.

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Carex gracilescens (Cyperaceae) new to Middlesex County, Ontario

William B. Draper[1], Jane M. Bowles[2] and Michael J. Oldham[3]
[1]48 Brunswick Ave, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2L7
[2]Department of Plant Sciences, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario N0M 2P0
[3]Natural Heritage Information Centre, Ministry of natural Resources, P.O. Box 7000, Peterborough, Ontario K9J 8M5

As part of the London Subwatershed Studies, being carried out on behalf of the Corporation of the City of London by the Upper Thames River and Kettle Creek Conservation Authorities, two of us (W.B.D and J.M.B.) conducted life science inventories of a number of woodlots in the London area during the spring and summer of 1994. In a small woodlot in southeast London (formerly in the Township of Westminster) we came across a small patch of *Carex gracilescens*.

This species is considered rare in Canada and rare in Ontario (Ball and White, 1982) and is ranked S3 (rare to uncommon; usually between 20 and 100 occurrences) in the province by the Natural Heritage Information Centre (Oldham, 1994). In Ontario it is restricted to the south (Figure 1). It is listed as common in Essex County, very uncommon in Lambton County and rare in Kent County by Oldham (1993), and uncommon in the Regional Municipality of Haldimand-Norfolk by Sutherland (1987). It has also been reported in Huron County (McLeod, 1990), Brant County (W. Bakowsky, pers. comm), and the Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth (Heagy, 1993; Goodban *et al.* 1994). It is listed as rare in Peel, Halton, Niagara-Haldimand and Hamilton-Wentworth-Brant-Oxford by Riley (1984). In eastern Ontario there are recent records from Hastings and Prince Edward Counties (Brownell *et al.*, in press). This is the first record for Middlesex County, and it represents a central location between the western and eastern occurrences in southwestern Ontario (Figure 1).

The species is somewhat similar to its close relatives in the Laxiflorae, such as *Carex blanda*, but it stood out in early May because of its earlier flowering phenology. It a sedge of wet-mesic and mesic hardwood forests including rich beech-maple forests and oak and oak-hickory woodlands (Voss, 1972). The *Carex gracilescens* reported here was growing with other sedges on a slight rise near the base of a tree in a mesic to wet-mesic woodland dominated by American Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), with a ground flora of Skunk Cabbage (*Symplocarpus foetidus*) and Trout Lily (*Erythronium americanum*).

Specimens

Ontario, **MIDDLESEX COUNTY**, City of London, Dingman Creek Watershed, Lot 5, Concession IV of the former Westminster Township. UTM 893517 on Map 40-I/14. 11 May 1994. W.B. Draper and J.M. Bowles #D-055 (UWO, MICH).

Acknowledgements

Brendon Larson made the original identification which was confirmed by Tony Reznicek. Wasyl Bakowsky allowed us to map his Brant County and Lambton County records in Figure 1. Anthony Goodban supplied additional locational information for records from Hamilton-Wentworth and Halton. Our thanks also to landowners Elmer Carroll and Wilbert Dale for allowing us access to the site.

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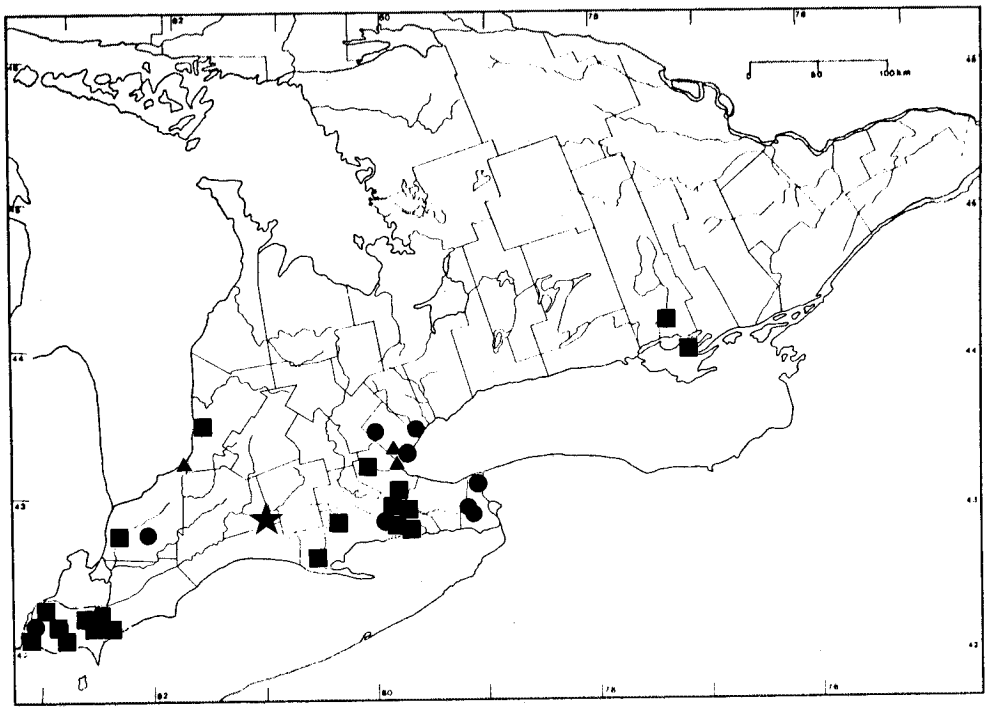

Figure 1: **Distribution of *Carex grascilescens* in Ontario. ● records reported by Ball and White (1982), ■ additional records on file at the Natural Heritage Information Centre; ▲ additional records provided by Bakowsky and Goodban (pers. comm.); ★ new record reported here.**

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