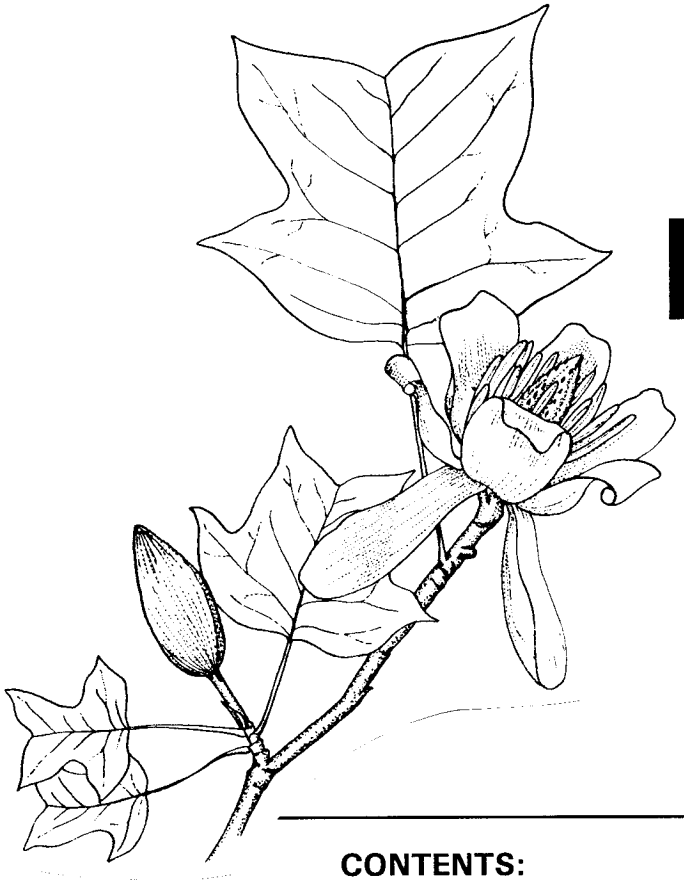


FIELD BOTANISTS OF ONTARIO

ISSN: 1180-1417

NEWSLETTER

Spring 1994
Volume 7(1)

CONTENTS:

A CALENDAR OF FIELD EVENTS FOR 1994
AND A FIELD TRIP APPLICATION FORM
ARE ENCLOSED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER

...•••...

THERE WILL BE A LICHEN WORKSHOP ON MAY 14-15, 1994
AT LAURENTIAN UNIVERSITY, SUDBURY

...•••...

THE FBO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1994 WILL BE HELD THE WEEKEND OF AUGUST 6-7 AT WYE MARSH

For further information contact Irene McIlveen (519)-853-3948.

FIELD BOTANISTS of ONTARIO

NEWSLETTER
Published quarterly by the FBO
ISSN: 1180-1417

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

ILLUSTRATIONS

The drawings in this issue of the newsletter are by Jane Bowles.

FIELD BOTANISTS OF ONTARIO
FINANCIAL STATEMENT

January 1 - December 31, 1993

	Jan 1, 1993 - Dec 31, 1993			Jan 1, 1992 - Dec 31, 1992		
Bank balance beginning			$ 6,088.86			$ 4,852.41
REVENUE						
Memberships	2,896.00			2,726.00		
Field Trips	3,154.00	(1)		2,915.00		
AGM	621.00			800.00		
Bank Interest	40.45			93.77		
Publications	20.00			140.00		
U.S. Exchange	20.74			35.16		
Donations	110.00		6,862.19	638.00	(2)	7,347.93
			$12,951.05			$12,200.34
EXPENSES						
Field Trips	1,194.00			1,194.85		
Leaders' Honoraria	1,300.00			1,852.10		
AGM	612.48			411.11		
Newsletter	3,823.28	(3)		1,900.00		
Publications	76.90			--		
President	445.68			299.40		
Membership	41.68			--		
Treasurer	55.64			18.07		
CNF Membership	35.00			--		
FON Membership	100.00			100.00		
Trip Insurance	330.00			315.00		
Bank Charges	27.60		(8,042.26)	20.95		(6,111.48)
Bank balance, end			$ 4,908.79			$6,088.86

Notes:

1. Includes two workshops.
2. Includes two life memberships.
3. Includes 1992 expenses of $1,485.

FBO FIELD TRIPS FOR 1994

Enclosed with this newsletter is information relating to field trips and workshops organized by FBO for 1994. The program includes nine field trips, two workshops and the Annual General Meeting which will have its own field events. The AGM is planned for the Wye Marsh Nature Centre in early August.

The events selected provide opportunities to examine a variety of botanical topics, habitats and geographic areas in Ontario. We have also tried to balance the program with respect to novice and advanced levels of expertise. We hope that you will be able to attend at least one event in 1994. Register early to avoid disappointment. A general guide to responsibilities of participants has been provided.

We thank everyone who has made suggestions for field trip events. For various reasons, it is not possible to accommodate all suggestions within any given year. Contributors whose suggestions are not included in 1994 should not despair as we will try to include as many as possible when plans are being made for future field seasons. We welcome constructive criticism of any event so that problems can be minimized.

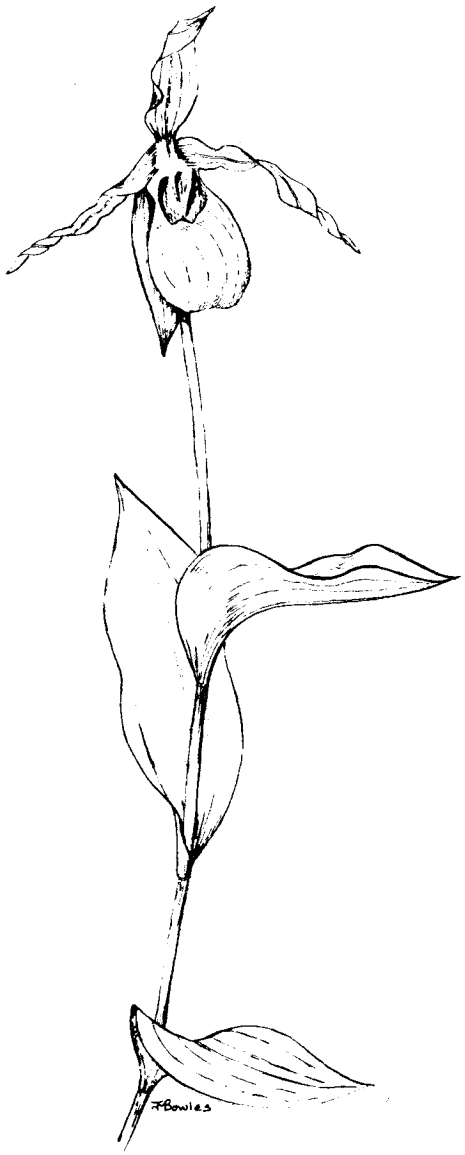
More details about individual events (ie. meeting places, lunch, activities, plant highlights) will be provided to all registrants prior to the event. If additional information is required in making decisions about registering, contact the events co-ordinator (Irene McIlveen). Telephone calls are much faster than the mail.

Participants on the trip to Stony Swamp, Ottawa may wish to first familiarize themselves with the area. Basic information is available in a book on natural areas of the Ottawa region authored by the trip leader, Dan Brunton (1988). It was favourably reviewed in the 1989 Canadian Field-Naturalist 103: 300. We hope that copies will be available for sale at the time of the trip. The following is a brief summary taken from the book review.

In the first part of the book, Dan Brunton describes the major habitats in the Ottawa area. Following a brief description of the habitat, there is an illustrated section on the plants, birds, mammals and reptiles most likely to be found there. The other part of the book gives information on over 30 sites in the area. Along with descriptions of the ecology and probable inhabitants, there are directions to each site (including maps), information on parking facilities, walking conditions and any special precautions necessary (ie. land owner's permission required). Profits from the sale of this book go to the Alfred Bog Fund.

Reference:

Brunton, D.F. 1988. Nature and the Natural Areas in Canada's Capital. The Ottawa Citizen and the Ottawa Field Naturalists' Club, Ottawa. 208 pp. $9.95.



Cypripedium acaule

CONFUSION IN THE CAROLINIAN ZONE

As botanists we frequently encounter and increasingly use the term Carolinian, but what exactly do we (and others such as foresters, nurserymen and even landscapers) mean by it and where did the term come from?

Let's start way back in 1629. In that year King Charles I granted his attorney general, Sir Robert Heath, the southern part of the English claim in America called the Province of Carolana (land of Charles). In some fashion, not explained in encyclopedias, this was corrupted to Carolina. Then the area was chopped into a North and South to become the states we like to golf in today.

But now to biology - in 1859, J.G. Cooper used the term Carolinian to describe a forest region running in a strip along the Atlantic coast from southern Long Island to Georgia. This appears to be the first use of the term in a biological rather than geographical sense. In 1892, J.A. Allen used Carolinian for a faunal region stretching from the Carolinas to New Jersey and west to South Dakota and Oklahoma. Both Allen and Cooper excluded southern Ontario from their Carolinian regions. In 1898, C.H. Merriam published his influential 'Life Zones and Crop Zones of the United States'. Merriam used isotherms as well as plant and animal ranges to define a Carolinian Area:

"Counting from the north, the Carolinian Area is that in which the sassafras, tulip tree, hackberry, sycamore, sweet gum, rose magnolia, redbud, persimmon, and short-leaf pine first make their appearance together with the opossum, gray fox, fox squirrel, cardinal, Carolina wren, tufted tit, gnatcatcher, summer tanager, and yellow-breasted chat. Chestnuts, hickory nuts, hazel-nuts, and walnuts grow wild in abundance."

Merriam's study correlated crop adaptability with the life zones of the native plants and animals. For example, peaches do well where chestnut grows. Southern Ontario from the north end of Lake St. Clair to the west end of Lake Ontario was included in his Carolinian Area.

In 1915, Canadian researchers Macoun and Malte used Carolinian to identify the vegetation in southern Ontario bounded by "a line running approximately from the northern shore of Lake Ontario to Windsor". They characterized the vegetation as

"the Hickories (6 species), the Oaks (10 species), the Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*), the Chestnut (*Castanea dentata*), and the Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*). Less abundant and more local in their distribution are: Cucumber Tree (*Magnolia acuminata*), Tulip Tree (*Liriodendron Tulipifera*), Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*), which all have beautiful and very conspicuous flowers, Papaw (*Asimina triloba*), Red Mulberry (*Morus rubra*), American Crab Apple (*Pyrus coronaria*), Sour Gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*), Sassafras (*Sassafras variifolium*) and others."

"The herbaceous vegetation is very rich, at least a hundred species occurring nowhere else in Canada being found in the zone. A few of the most conspicuous may be mentioned, viz.: Yellow Nelumbo or "Lotus Flower" (*Nelumbo lutea*), May Apple (*Podophyllum peltatum*), Wild Lupine (*Lupinus perennis*), Tick Trefoil (*Desmodium*), Flowering Spurge (*Euphorbia corollata*), Swamp Rose Mallow (*Hibiscus moscheutos*), Wild Pansy (*Viola rafinesquii*), Prickly Pear (*Opuntia rafinesquii*), Poke Milkweed (*Asclepias phytolaccoides*), Wild Potato Vine (*Ipomoea pandurata*), Downy Phlox (*Phlox pilosa*), Waterleaf (*Hydrophyllum appendiculatum*), Bee Balm (*Monarda didyma*), Foxglove (*Gerardia pedicularia, G. virginica*), Tall Bellflower (*Campanula americana*), Great Lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*), Ironweed (*Vernonia altissima, V. illinoensis*), Dense Button Snakeroot (*Liatris spicata*), Prairie Dock (*Silphium terebinthinaceum*), Cup Plant (*Silphium perfoliatum*), Sunflower (*Helianthus decapetalus, H. divaricatus*), Tall Coreopsis (*Coareopsis tripteris*), Indian Plantain (*Cacalia tuberosa*). Golden Seal (*Hydrastis canadensis*) and Ginseng (*Panax quinquefolium*) were at one time abundant but are now practically extinct."

In 1938 another Canadian, John Adams, mapped an "Interlacustrine or Carolinian Region" with a northern limit along a line from approximately Toronto to Sarnia. He listed most of the same species as restricted to the region as Macoun and Malte.

Finally Dice (1943) defined a Carolinian Biotic Province which essentially followed that of Allen and Merriam but excluded most states west of the Mississippi and included Ontario below a line from Grand Bend to Toronto.

After this the term should have gone off to die in some biogeographical boneyard because other terms were ascendent. For example, W. Halliday (1937) in his 'Forest Classification for Canada' outlined a Deciduous Forest Region described as

"The rather low-lying portion of the Ontario peninsula,

enclosed by Lakes Ontario, Erie, and Huron... The associations are predominantly composed of broad-leaved trees. A large number of these species, many of small size, find their northern limit here. Amongst these are chestnut, tuliptree, mockernut and pignut hickories, chinquapin, chestnut, scarlet, black, and pin oaks, black gum, blue ash, magnolia, papaw, Kentucky coffee tree, redbud, red mulberry, and sassafras. In addition, within this Section is the main distribution for Canada of black walnut, sycamore, swamp white oak, the shagbark hickory, together with the more widely distributed butternut, bitternut hickory, rock elm, silver maple, and blue beech. All these species occur as scattered individuals or groups, either on specialized sites or within the characteristic association for the Section. This association, made up of widely distributed broad-leaved trees common in part to both the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence and the Deciduous Forest Regions, consists primarily of beech and sugar maple, together with basswood, red maple, and (northern) red, white and bur oak. The presence of the species listed above, and the predominance of beech within the characteristic association, indicate a definite relationship to an Ohio centre of distribution. Coniferous species are poorly represented..."

Within the Deciduous Forest Region, Halliday mapped a single 'Section' which he called the Niagara Section. [J.S. Rowe in his Forest Regions of Canada (1959, revised 1972) followed Halliday's work and retained the Niagara Section of the Deciduous Forest Region.] In 1950, noted forest ecologist Lucy Braun mapped the area south of the Toronto-Grand Bend line within the Beech-Maple Forest Region of her Deciduous Forest Formation. Why Beech-Maple? The idea was that a mature landscape (ie. well-drained) would have a Beech-Sugar Maple community at the climax, of plant succession. She was clearly influenced by the earlier work on succession and climax communities by Weaver and Clement (1938). This was a time when the concept of climax vegetation was embraced by biologists eager to bring order from nature's chaos.

So now, at mid-century, the term Carolinian seemed headed for extinction. Instead it was merely extirpated from most of its former range. The reprieve came at the hands of two Canadian academics, J.H. Soper and W.S. Fox. Soper was curator of the herbarium at the University of Toronto and Fox was retired from the presidency of the University of Western Ontario; you may remember him as author of "The Bruce Beckons" or "T'aint Running No More". From 1952 to 1954 they published three papers entitled "The distribution of some trees and shrubs of the Carolinian Zone of Southern Ontario". In the first of these papers they noted that a floral "territory" (of trees and shrubs particularly) formed a unit in eastern North America

"From its northern limit, somewhere in Canada, it stretched into the southland as far as Tennessee and the Carolinas, and even beyond...Captivated by a name redolent of the South, one investigator called, quite appropriately, the last, roughly defined expanse, the Carolinian Zone".

They don't name the romantic investigator, but in the final paper they provide a genealogy of the word starting in 1859 with J.G. Cooper.

Since the Fox and Soper publications, the term Carolinian has received wide currency among Canadian authors in a variety of fields, appearing in papers by Thaler and Plowright (1973), Cruise (1969), Maycock and Fahselt (1987), Cody (1982), Catling *et al.* (1992), and of course Soper (1956; 1962), to name a few.

At some point the 'redolent' quality of Carolinian must have struck a resonant chord within the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests and the Canadian Parks Service; Pinery and Rondeau Provincial Parks, and Point Pelee National Park began proclaiming 'Deep South' Carolinian status.

Final entrenchment came in 1984 with the fanfare and publicity surrounding the formation of the Carolinian Canada Programme by World Wildlife Fund (Canada) and others, with strong support from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. The ensuing landowner contact, education, acquisition, research, documentation and publications brought the term to an ever-widening audience. In 1985, a special Seasons magazine issue was devoted to "celebrating Carolinian Canada". Now, throughout southern Ontario, autoworker and professor alike use the term. Curiously, one Carolinian Canada publication (Allen *et al.* 1990) calls Carolinian Zone a "nickname" for the Deciduous Forest Region.

What are we to make of this word Carolinian? Perhaps, like many words, it is evolving; a semantic moving target, blurred, difficult to define. We could make it a colloquial scientific term, an ethnocentric artifact, or a description of a particular community. We could use it as a horticultural term, as a site description for restorative work, or a "nickname" for the

Deciduous Forest Region. We could let it evolve until some consensus is reached.

As it is we have a term that is provincial in both senses. Is it reasonable to change terminology at a political border? Perhaps we should use the term Deciduous Forest Region (or Beech-Maple Forest) and retain Niagara Section as token chauvinism. We could reserve Carolinian for communities dominated by the species commonly used to typify the Carolinian Zone; species which are largely restricted to well drained, sandy, often acidic, soils.

Many ecologists, such as Dice (1952), have recognized associations within a biotic province. To quote Dice the association is "a type of community that in aggregate covers an important part of the area of a biotic province". Dice's 'association' is essentially synonymous with the mapping units of W.A. Morsink (1984). Morsink used five 'Deciduous Forest Mapping Units' for the forest vegetation of Essex, Kent and Lambton Counties in Ontario. These included "Carolinian Upland Hardwoods" which contained Sassafras, Flowering Dogwood, Tulip Tree, Black Gum and American Chestnut as well as Sugar Maple and Beech.

The concept of plant "association" was also recognized by both Halliday and Rowe, but we can add further confusion at this point by noting that some researchers, of which Maycock is a good example, have emphasized the futility of defining associations because of the "continuous characteristics of forest patterns within the Deciduous Forest Formation".

What's our preference you will likely ask? Well, we would like to see Deciduous Forest Region used instead of Carolinian Zone. We would prefer Carolinian as a label for those associations within the Deciduous Forest Region in which Sassafras and Tulip Tree are dominants with some Flowering Dogwood in the understorey. Such an association would likely have had a lot of American Chestnut at one time. Codominants would include Black Walnut, Black Oak, White Oak, Red Maple, Pignut Hickory, and Black Gum. The species common to the association could be referred to as Carolinian in the nursery trade. By using Carolinian in this way we may lose some of the romance (and redolency), but just might gain some precision from conformity. We wouldn't be surprised if you disagreed.

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Acknowledgement:
Although not referenced above we acknowledge our debt to R.F. Brady *et al.* who trod much of the same ground in their report "Regional Municipality of Niagara's Environmentally Sensitive Areas". Department of Geography, Brock University, St. Catherines, 1980.

Gerry Waldron, Biologist,
Natural Habitat Restoration Program
and
Ken Colthurst, Forester,
Essex Region Conservation Authority

LONG PURPLES

This name refers to Eyebright (*Euphrasia*) which has also been known as Long Purples from at least Shakespearean times. The plant named *Euphrasia officinalis* by Linnaeus is now split, in Europe, into some 21 species as well as more than 60 distinct hybrids. Several of these are found in Ontario, as well as three indigenous species. All of them are hard to distinguish from each other!

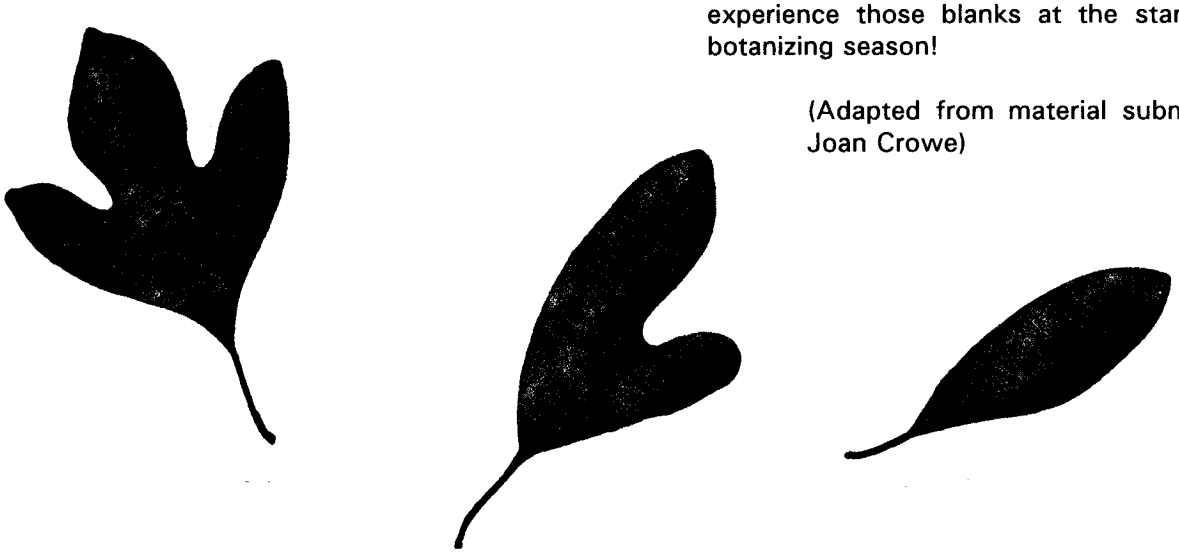
All species, like several other members of the Scrophulariaceae, are semi-parasitic on the roots of other angiosperms. They are one of the first plants to flower in spring, appearing in lawns and other weedy areas on warm banks soon after snow melt.

The name *Euphrasia* means joy or delight in Greek. It is in allusion to the plant's reputed properties for curing sore eyes and clarifying eyesight. The specific epithet *officinalis* was commonly applied to plants with reputed medicinal properties. One 19th century herbalist commented

> "If the plant was as much used as it is neglected, it would half spoil the spectacle-makers trade."

Nicholas Culpepper, a famous astronomer-physician of the 17th century adds ".. it also helps a weak brain, or memory", something you might want to bear in mind when you experience those blanks at the start of the botanizing season!

(Adapted from material submitted by Joan Crowe)



Sassafras albidum

DUNDAS VALLEY FORESTS TRIP REPORT

Trip participants met at 10:30am on September 25, 1993 in the parking lot of the Royal Botanical Gardens and car-pooled for the trip led by Mary Gartshore. The day was warm and sunny with little evidence of the approaching fall season. We proceeded to my family farm "Auchinburn Farm" in the Dundas Valley near the community of Mineral Springs. Participants ate lunch beside an artificial lake where a pair of Trumpeter Swans - part of Harry Lumsden's reintroduction project - fed casually in the distance. Afterwards we proceeded to the large mature deciduous forest - one of the finest natural systems in southern Ontario, recognized as a Carolinian Canada site, provincial ANSI (Area of Natural and Scientific Interest) and Regional Natural Area.

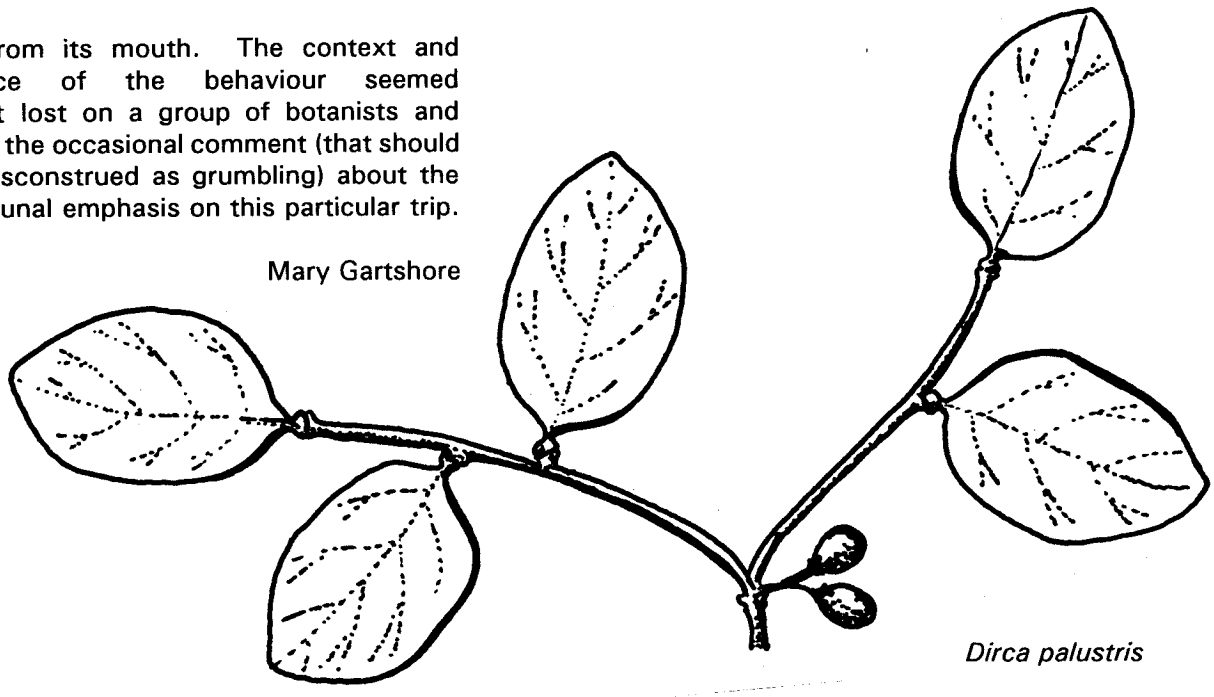
Participants walked along a trail on top of one of many extensive ridge systems that are part of the glacial drift hills in the forest. Eastern Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*), Downy Serviceberry (*Amelanchier arborea*), Sassafras (*Sassafras alba*) and Clearweed (*Pilea fontana*) were identified. I explained the management philosophy which had been employed by my father John Gartshore who still resides on the farm. At one time the forest had been grazed by my grandfather's herd of milking cows. The effects of this activity are still apparent. Some tree removal has resulted in increased light on the forest floor and a return of native herbaceous species such as Wild Leek (*Allium burdickii*) and others. We walked to a clear woodland stream where Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virescens*) and Louisiana Waterthrush (*Seiurus motacilla*) are summer residents. A small stand of Ostrich Fern (*Matteuccia struthiopteris*) and the sedge *Carex prasina* were noted. Beyond the stream we entered perhaps the most botanically rich and oldest area of the forest. Several Carolinian plant species were observed including Yellow Mandarin (*Disporum lanuginosum*), Horsebalm (*Collinsonia canadensis*), Broad Beech Fern (*Phegopteris hexagonoptera*) and Wild Ginseng (*Panax quinquefolius*). A few individuals of Leatherwood (*Dirca palustris*) were scattered in the shrub layer. Several trees in this area are extremely large, including White Oak (*Quercus alba*) and Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*), and are clearly remnants of an old growth system.

We travelled west on Mineral Springs Road to Slote Road and travelled south to Powerline Road. We stopped briefly at the highest point of land just west of the junction of Paddy Green's Road to look at a remnant hillside prairie which my father and I had only recently discovered early that August. It is hard to explain the experience of discovering something significant in a familiar haunt (perhaps it is the humility of having overlooked it for so long). This prairie, though small, supports original prairie vegetation and is part of a chain of remnant prairies. Dominants include Big Bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*), Indian Grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*), Little Bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), Azure Aster (*Aster azureus*), Bicknell's Sedge (*Carex bicknellii*) (I believe the fourth station for Ontario), and Round-headed Bush-Clover (*Lespedeza capitata*). Before the trees on the ridge to the south grew up one could see the light from the Long Point lighthouse on Lake Erie on a clear night, a distance of 86 km as the crow flies.

We proceeded south on Paddy Green's Road to the Police Pistol Range - an old gravel pit. This area is owned by Hamilton Region Conservation Authority. Much of the area is rented and still farmed in corn and rye. Prairie remnants are visible all around with Black Oak (*Quercus velutina*) in the hedgerows and distant silhouettes of mature Hill's Oak (*Quercus ellipsoidalis*). The soil is light and the impacts of these agricultural practices on the large forest block to the east - the west end of the Dundas Valley Forest - may be considerable. The forest begins as a series of ridges and steep ravines which plunge below the corn fields. The trees are large and the humid ravines are filled with lush growth including Interrupted Fern (*Osmunda claytoniana*), Doll's Eyes (*Actaea pachypoda*) and Purple-flowering Raspberry (*Rubus odoratus*). It was at this site in July of this year that I discovered Hamilton-Wentworth's first Hooded Warbler (*Wilsonia citrina*) nest some 133 years after the species was first reported in the Hamilton area. The nest was still visible in a Black Raspberry (*Rubus allegheniensis*) tangle, although the young were fledged and well on their migration to the tropics. The trip ended with a comical view of a White-tailed Deer buck in love. The magnificent animal was cantering single-mindedly across a field - thickened neck, head low, tongue protruding and strings of saliva

running from its mouth. The context and significance of the behaviour seemed somewhat lost on a group of botanists and generated the occasional comment (that should not be misconstrued as grumbling) about the level of faunal emphasis on this particular trip.

Mary Gartshore



Dirca palustris

TOWARDS A FLORA OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH

A draft document entitled *The Vascular Plant Flora of the Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth, Ontario* has recently been compiled by Anthony Goodban under the auspices of the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority. The introductory section includes a regional overview by Audrey Heagy and a chapter by Dr. J.S. Pringle on the "Prior History of Floristic Explorations in the Hamilton-Wentworth Region". Also in the introduction is a floristic overview and explanatory notes on the checklist which forms the main body of the report.

Over 1263 taxa have been documented to date from Hamilton-Wentworth. Of these, 60 are provincially rare. For each taxon, the following information is provided in the checklist: scientific name, common name, status, occurrence and source of information (the latter two are provided only for 'rare' species).

This checklist is an elaboration of a provisional checklist prepared by Anthony Goodban for Volume I of the Hamilton-Wentworth Natural Areas Inventory (edited by Audrey Heagy). The names of natural areas described in Volume II ("Site Summaries") have been adopted in *The Vascular Plant Flora of the Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth, Ontario*.

Publication of the checklist is planned for late in 1994 and an announcement will be made in the FBO Newsletter. In the meantime, there is an opportunity for FBO members to contribute records to this project. To be included in the checklist, records of significant taxa should be supported by voucher specimens deposited at recognized herbaria. All contributors will be acknowledged.

Correspondence pertaining to this project should be directed to:

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or

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Hamilton Region Conservation Authority
P.O. Box 7099
838 Mineral Springs Road
Ancaster, ON
L9G 3L3

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.

Carex virescens (Cyperaceae) new to the Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth, Ontario

Anthony G. Goodban

372 Pine Street, Milton, Ontario L9T 1K9

Carex virescens Muhlenb. ex Willd. (Greenish Sedge) is a relatively rare sedge that occurs in Canada only in the southwestern counties of Ontario and the Eastern Townships in Quebec (P.W. Ball, pers. comm.). This is a southeastern species considered rare in Ontario, Quebec and Canada (Ball and White, 1982; Argus and Pryer, 1990).

Prior to the Haldimand-Norfolk Natural Areas Inventory, *Carex virescens* was known to occur in Ontario only at Backus Woods (Ball and White, 1982; Sutherland, 1987; Varga, 1986). During the inventory, *Carex virescens* was collected at eleven new localities in Haldimand-Norfolk (Sutherland, 1987). Since the publication of Ball and White's (1982) map, this species has also been found at several locations in Elgin, Essex and Middlesex Counties and the Regional Municipality of Niagara (Sutherland, 1987; M.J. Oldham, pers. comm.; search of TRTE by the author). The discovery of *Carex virescens* in the Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth, as described below, represents a northern range extension in Ontario.

Carex virescens was included in an unpublished checklist of vascular plants for the Dundas Valley Conservation Area compiled by Audet (1989). Since a substantiating voucher specimen could not be located during a search of OAC by C.A. LaCroix, this record was not included in a subsequent checklist for the Dundas Valley compiled by the author in 1992 (Goodban, 1992). In the spring of 1993, a portion of the valley was searched and *Carex virescens* was relocated.

Carex virescens was found growing with *Carex communis* and *Carex hirtifolia* in sandy soil on a mesic wooded ravine terrace dominated by *Acer saccharum* ssp. *saccharum, Quercus rubra* and *Betula allegheniensis*. Other interesting southern or Carolinian species occurring in this ravine include *Carex prasina, Cornus florida, Disporum lanuginosum, Hybanthus concolor, Liriodendron tulipifera* and *Sassafras albidum.*

Note

Voucher specimens were collected by the author from the Dundas Valley Conservation Area with written permission from the Assistant General Manager of the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority. General plant collecting is prohibited in conservation areas.

Specimens

Ontario, **Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth**, Town of Ancaster, Dundas Valley Conservation Area, 0.4 km SSW of Merrick Field Centre, south of hydro right-of-way, 16 June 1993, A.G. Goodban 93-012 (TRTE).

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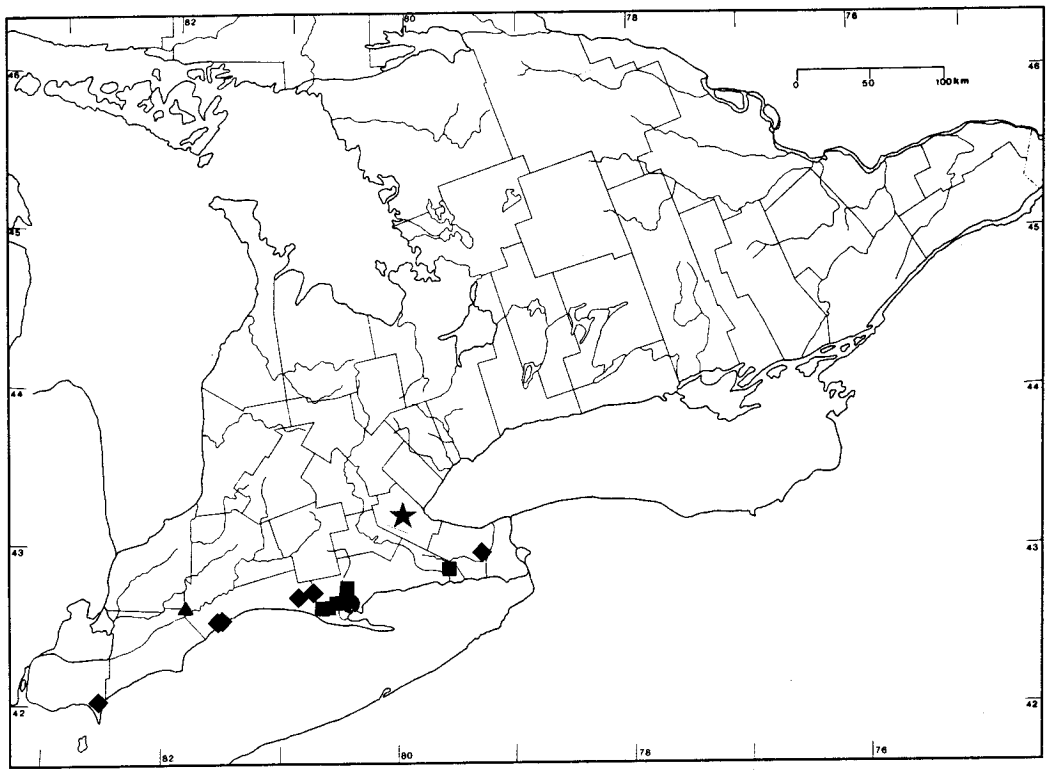

Figure 1: *Carex virescens* Muhl. ex Schkuhr in Ontario. Based on Ball and White (1982) (●), Sutherland (1987) (■), collections at TRTE (♦), Oldham pers. comm. (▲) and the new station described in this report (★).

Herniaria glabra L. (Caryophyllaceae) new to the District Municipality of Muskoka

George Bryant
58 Fairmeadow Ave., Willowdale, Ontario M2P 1W7

The area surrounding the old Muskoka Wharf in West Gravenhurst has been disturbed for over a century with the result that a number of interesting weedy plants occur here. In September 1991, I collected an odd, scruffy weed that looked a bit as if it had been hit with 2-4D.

Dr. Peter Ball of Erindale College identified the plants as *Herniaria glabra* L. (Smooth Rupturewort), and this collection appears to be the third record for Ontario. Although Morton and Venn (1990) list it as a single record, a lawn weed which did not persist, there are two specimens at TRT. One was collected from Barrie, Simcoe County, Ontario in 1972 by Rick Bobbette and the other was collected by Eleanor Skelton and Emerson Skelton from the Minden Scenic Lookout, Haliburton County, Ontario in 1980.

Voss (1985) describes the species as an inconspicuous little Eurasian weed misidentified as *Scleranthus*. It was first found in Michigan in 1920, and not again until 1979, but Voss points out that it is so easily overlooked that it may occur elsewhere.

In 1993 the area where the plant was found was bulldozed to make an overflow parking area for the public wharf. The site has not been checked for surviving individuals.

Specimen

Ontario, **MUSKOKA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY**, West Gravenhurst, Topographic Map 31D/14, UTM 273749, September 1991, George Bryant (TRTE).

Acknowledgements

My thanks to Peter Ball for identifying the specimen, Bill Crins for handling the material, Dale Hoy for checking specimens at TRT and Jane Bowles for helping with preparation of the manuscript.

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