WOLFFIA PAPULIFERA AND LEMNA MINIMA IN OHIO

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In mid-autumn of 1948 and again in the summer of 1949 the writer made collections of one of the Duckweed family which until recently has been considered one of quite rare occurrence—Wolffia papulifera Thompson. Both Gray and Britton and Brown cite it as occurring only in Missouri. Muenscher, however, in his Aquatic Plants of the United States, calls it "infrequent in the central states." A recent article in the American Midland Naturalist (Wolffia papulifera in Florida—D. Jacobs, Vol. 42, p. 110), announces its discovery in Florida and refers to it as apparently the only known occurrence outside of Missouri.

However, it has been collected in several other places, as set forth in an article published some years ago, which has just been brought to the writer's attention. In "Distribution and Flowering in Wolffia papulifera," by W. H. Camp, Ohio Journal of Science, Vol. 33, p. 163 (May, 1933) collections are listed from the following stations:

Kennett, Mo.
Columbia, Mo.
Linn Co., Kan.
Mexico City, Mex.
Latonia, Ky.
Jackson Co., Ohio.
Southern Campeche, Mex.

The collections made by the writer were from ponds located in the Holden Arboretum in Lake County; the species was growing in company with Wolffia columbiana Karst. and Spirodala polyrhiza (L.) Schleid.

Collections were also made at about the same time of another species of the family which is apparently of infrequent occurrence, or what is more likely, generally overlooked—Lemna minima Phill. It grew in a stagnant pool near the Chagrin River in Cuyahoga County, the territory comprising a part of the Cleveland Metropolitan Park System. It seems rather remarkable that there is no record to date of this latter species in the Ohio State University Herbarium.