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The Orobanchaceae of Ohio

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THE OROBANCHACEAE OF OHIO. This paper presents a study of the distribution, frequency, and habitat of the four species of the Orobancheaceae native to Ohio. It is hoped that the study and the distribution maps will encourage additional collecting in neglected parts of the state.

The information was compiled from specimens in the herbaria of Oberlin College, The Ohio State University, Ohio Wesleyan University, University of Cincinnati, and Kent State University. Identifications were checked with the aid of Fernald (1950), Gleason (1952), and Weishaupt (1960).

The assignment of frequency ratings and the form in which the data are presented follow the pattern of Hauser (1963; 1964). On the distribution maps (fig. 1), a dot or an X represents an exact location from which a specimen was collected. A ring in the center of the county indicates that no location within the county was given.

We wish to express our thanks to the curators of the herbaria listed above for the loan of their specimens.

**KEY TO THE SPECIES OF OROBANCHACEAE**

1. Stems usually much-branched, slender and above ground; numerous flowers and fruits distributed separately along the branches, the pedicels shorter than the calyx or only slightly longer; the upper flowers sterile and with tubular corolla, lower flowers fertile and cleistogamous. .................................................. *Epifagus virginiana*

1'. Stems simple or with few branches, stout and either above or below ground; flowers either on long pedicels greatly exceeding the calyx length or else in a dense spike or raceme; the flowers perfect. .................................................. 2

2. Flowers on long pedicels several times the length of the calyx. .................. *Orobanche uniflora*

2'. Flowers sessile or on pedicels scarcely if at all exceeding calyx length. ........ 3

3. Plants glandular-pubescent; calyx tube nearly regularly 5-cleft; stamens included. ........ *Conopholis americana*

3'. Plants glabrous; calyx tube deeply cleft below; stamens exerted. .......... *Orobanche ludoviciana*

**EPIFAGUS Nutt.** (Beech Drops, Cancer Root)

1. *Epifagus virginiana* (L.) Bart.

*Leptamnium virginianum* (L.) Raf.

Common. Specimens were seen from over four-fifths of Ohio's counties. Woods; parasitic on beech roots. August-October.

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1. *Orobanche uniflora* L.
   *Aphyllon uniflorum* (L.) Torr. & Gray
   *Thalesia uniflora* (L.) Britt.
   Frequent. Creek and river banks, floodplains, wooded hillsides and ravines. Reported by Gleason (1952) to be parasitic on numerous kinds of plants. May-June. Dr. George T. Jones (personal communication) reports a collection from Huron County.

2. *Orobanche ludoviciana* Nutt.
   *Myzorrhiza ludoviciana* (Nutt.) Rydb.
   Rare. All specimens below at the Ohio State University Herbarium.


   Common in all sections of the state except the northwestern part. Rich, wooded hillsides; parasitic on witch hazel, oak, maple and flowering dogwood. May-July.

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LITERATURE CITED


