

OHIO FLORISTICS AT THE COUNTY LEVEL

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This paper presents information on the extent to which Ohio counties have been covered, floristically. The data, taken almost entirely from the work of other investigators, were compiled so that I would be better able to advise students contemplating floristic work in Ohio, and be better informed as to where my own activities should be directed. A similar article prepared some years ago on the state of Iowa (Thorne, 1954) proved useful to workers throughout that state. The information presented here may prove equally useful to field workers in Ohio.

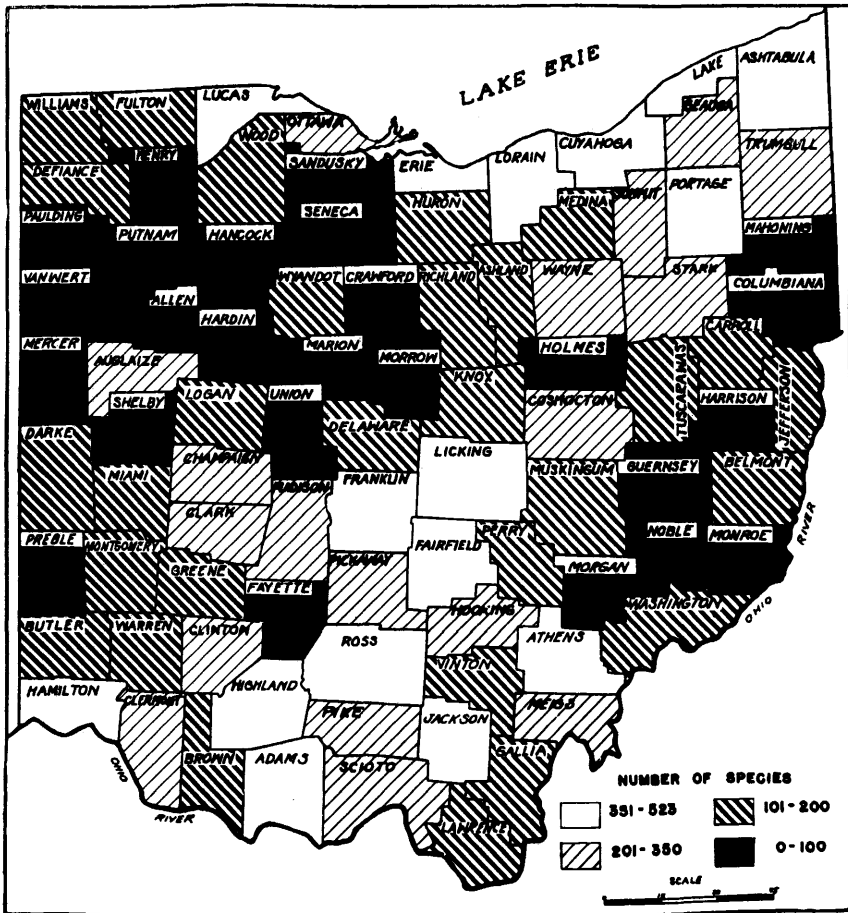


FIGURE 1. Map of Ohio. The numbers referred to in the legend are the number of species of pteridophytes, monocots, legumes, and composites reported for each county.

The accompanying map (fig. 1) and the county list below are based on information in "preliminary lists" by Braun (1954), Weishaupt (1954), Adams (1955), Gambill (1955), and Long (1957). These reports treat the monocots (exclusive

of grasses), grasses, pteridophytes, legumes, and composites, respectively, listing county records for each species of these groups. These records, in turn, are based on information contributed by curators of the various herbaria in the state. A total of 1203 species is reported.

In the catalog of Ohio plants published by Schaffner (1932), a known flora of 2309 species is listed for the state. The pteridophytes, monocots, legumes, and composites constitute 45 percent of these species. A projection based on this percentage and the 1203 species now reported for these same taxa suggests that the total vascular plant flora of Ohio will prove to consist of about 2700 species.

At the county level, the total number of pteridophyte, monocot, legume, and composite species reported ranges widely, from 43 species for Van Wert County to 523 species for Erie County. In all probability the amount of collecting done in these selected taxa is an accurate sample and indication of the total amount of collecting that has been done in each county.

In the list below, counties are arranged in order of the number of species reported. In both the list and the map (fig. 1), counties are divided into four groups. For each of these four groups an estimate is made of the number of species of all vascular plants that have been collected to date. This estimate is based on the assumption that the species reported represent 45 percent of the total, as noted above.

I am aware of several points at which error could affect these figures, principally: misidentification of the specimen, and failure of all Ohio collections to be included. Furthermore, no allowance is made for collecting done after the reports were prepared, an example being the extensive collecting done by Dr. Ervin Herrick in northeastern Ohio. In addition, there is no reason to assume that the floras of all counties are equally rich in numbers of species. Nevertheless, I feel that this list and map provide a good *general* indication of what has been done in Ohio and of which areas are most in need of attention. Certainly those areas of the state shown in darkest color on the map are in need of competent field work before any definitive statement can be made concerning the nature of the flora of Ohio as a whole.

LIST OF COUNTIES

A. *Counties with 351 to 523 species (of pteridophytes, monocots, legumes, and composites) reported.* Estimated number of species of all vascular plants collected: 780 to 1162.

1. Erie	523	9. Highland	432
2. Hamilton	513	10. Athens	430
3. Portage	483	11. Ross	430
4. Franklin	473	12. Ashtabula	391
5. Lake	469	13. Licking	386
6. Cuyahoga	468	14. Lorain	382
7. Jackson	461	15. Adams	366
8. Fairfield	457	16. Lucas	354

B. *Counties with 201 to 350 species reported.* Estimated total number of species collected: 447 to 778.

17. Trumbull	348	26. Geauga	265
18. Hocking	338	27. Pickaway	258
19. Stark	322	28. Wayne	252
20. Scioto	319	29. Ottawa	241
21. Auglaize	316	30. Clark	229
22. Coshoccon	314	31. Champaign	225
23. Summit	305	32. Pike	221
24. Meigs	278	33. Madison	214
25. Clinton	270	34. Clermont	211

C. *Counties with 101 to 200 species reported.* Estimated total number of species collected: 224 to 444.

35. Wood.....	196	50. Wyandot.....	141
36. Montgomery.....	189	51. Lawrence.....	136
37. Tuscarawas.....	186	52. Medina.....	136
38. Greene.....	185	53. Knox.....	133
39. Muskingum.....	181	54. Logan.....	125
40. Belmont.....	180	55. Butler.....	124
41. Washington.....	180	56. Perry.....	124
42. Huron.....	167	57. Warren.....	121
43. Richland.....	167	58. Williams.....	120
44. Delaware.....	163	59. Brown.....	115
45. Gallia.....	163	60. Darke.....	111
46. Vinton.....	163	61. Ashland.....	109
47. Carroll.....	155	62. Miami.....	106
48. Defiance.....	142	63. Fulton.....	103
49. Jefferson.....	142		

D. *Counties with fewer than 100 species reported.* Estimated total number of species collected: 95 to 222.

64. Holmes.....	98	77. Harrison.....	71
65. Guernsey.....	92	78. Union.....	71
66. Preble.....	91	79. Paulding.....	70
67. Shelby.....	91	80. Henry.....	67
68. Monroe.....	89	81. Allen.....	63
69. Hardin.....	86	82. Noble.....	62
70. Morgan.....	83	83. Hancock.....	59
71. Marion.....	80	84. Seneca.....	53
72. Sandusky.....	79	85. Mercer.....	48
73. Columbiana.....	77	86. Mahoning.....	46
74. Crawford.....	76	87. Putnam.....	46
75. Fayette.....	75	88. Van Wert.....	43
76. Morrow.....	74		

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