

OENANTHE JAVANICA (APIACEAE) NEW TO THE FLORA OF OHIO

MARJORIE BECUS

9628 Union Cemetery Road
Loveland, Ohio 45140
marjeb1@gmail.com

MICHAEL A. VINCENT

W.S. Turrell Herbarium
Biology Department
Miami University
Oxford, Ohio 45056
vincenma@miamioh.edu

ABSTRACT

Oenanthe javanica, an invasive Asian species of Apiaceae, is reported here as a new addition to the flora of Ohio. The species has previously been reported in the USA from the District of Columbia, Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, Virginia, and Wisconsin. Invasive potential of the species is great, especially in wet habitats.

The genus *Oenanthe* (Apiaceae) has been represented in Ohio by one species: *Oenanthe aquatica* (L.) Poir. (water-fennel, Cooperrider et al. 2001; vouchers *Cusick* 25523–MU, OS, and *Louden* 4298–OS), which is native to Eurasia and northern Africa (Cooperrider 1995). In 2017, a plant was found growing in a wet, shady depression along the hike/bike trail of the Little Miami Scenic River Trail in the Little Miami State Park, site of a former rail line. A voucher specimen was collected in 2018 and has been identified as *Oenanthe javanica* (Blume) DC., Java water dropwort (also known as Vietnamese parsley or water celery (SEWISC 2016)).

Voucher. Ohio. Clermont Co.: Little Miami State Park, N 39.2517°, W -84.2832°, 2 May 2018 *Becus* 90218 (MU, NY).

The Ohio population consists of one long colony (approx. 6 meters by 1 meter) between the paved trail and the wooded hillside. The species has not been observed anywhere else along the trails in the park. The white flowers are produced mid- to late summer and fall, followed by the nearly globose fruits.

Key to species of *Oenanthe* in Ohio

1. Plants perennial; leaflets coarsely toothed, sometimes slightly lobed, leaves pinnate or bipinnate; peduncles 5–16 cm, longer than rays; fruits ca. 2.5 mm long, not demonstrably curved, styles nearly as long as fruits ***Oenanthe javanica***
1. Plants annual or biennial; leaflets finely subdivided into narrow, nearly linear, segments, leaves thus 3-4-pinnate; peduncles 1–3 cm, often shorter than rays; fruits 3–4.5 mm long, often curved, styles shorter than fruits ***Oenanthe aquatica***

Oenanthe javanica is native to Asia (Fading & Watson 2005) and cultivated as an edible species (Facciola 1990; Uphof 1968), even though other members of the genus are very toxic (Ball et al. 1987). The species is sometimes grown as an ornamental for aquascaping, especially the pink variegated cultivar 'Flamingo' (Missouri Botanical Garden 2020).

Oenanthe javanica has been previously reported in the USA from the District of Columbia (Simmons et al. 2008), Georgia (Kartesz 2015), Illinois (Illinois Wildflowers 2020), Maryland (Simmons et al. 2008), Minnesota (EddMapS 2020), Missouri (Yatskievych 2006; Yatskievych & Raveill 2001), Virginia (Simmons et al. 2008; Weakley et al. 2012), and Wisconsin (Flora of

Wisconsin 2020). It has strong potential as an invasive species in moist to wet habitats and has been banned in Wisconsin (SEWISC 2016).

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