

NOTEWORTHY COLLECTION

MICHIGAN

Glyceria melicaria (Michx.) F. T. Hubbard. (Poaceae). Northeastern Mannagrass, Long Mannagrass, or Melic Mannagrass.

Previous knowledge. This species is found in swamps and wet grounds (Hitchcock and Chase 1971; Gleason and Cronquist 1991; Flora of North America Editorial Committee 2007) in portions of the eastern United States and Canada. Its distribution in the eastern United States prior to the collections reported here includes Alabama, Connecticut, Georgia, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Ohio, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia (USDA NRCS 2008). In Canada, Gleason and Cronquist (1991) identify its range from Quebec to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Oldham et al. (1995) reported a range extension for this species in Ontario which may be the closest to this Michigan collection. Synonyms, not used in many years, include *Glyceria torreyana* Hitchc., *Panicularia torreyana* Merr. (Hitchcock and Chase 1971), *Glyceria nervata* (Flora of North America Editorial Committee 2007), and *Panicularia melicaria* (Michx.) Hitchc. (USDA NRCS 2008).

Significance. *Glyceria melicaria* is a grass previously unknown in the state of Michigan. The large population located in Oceana County which was discovered in 1997 and revisited several times over the years, is well established. Its location in a relatively undisturbed area of swampland suggests that its occurrence is not the result of a human introduction.

Diagnostic characters. A perennial graminoid, *Glyceria melicaria* displays slender, erect culms 50-100 cm tall with blades 2-7 mm wide and a distinct narrow, nodding panicle which becomes 15-25 cm long (Hitchcock and Chase 1971; Gleason and Cronquist 1991; Flora of North America Editorial Committee 2007; USDA NRCS 2008). Although reported to bloom in late spring by the National Plant Data Center (USDA NRCS 2008), tracking of this species over six years indicates that in west central Michigan (Oceana County), it blooms in early to mid-summer. *G. melicaria* can be distinguished from other small-spikeleted *Glyceria* found in Michigan (*G. grandis*, *G. striata*) in the panicle being narrow and much longer than wide, as opposed to diffuse and little longer than wide, and the ligules being less than 1 mm long, as opposed to ligules longer than 1 mm, often much longer (Hitchcock and Chase 1971; Gleason and Cronquist 1991).

Specimen citations. OCEANA CO.: semi-open lowland/swamp. Associates include *Impatiens* sp. NW 1/4 NE 1/4 Sec. 34 T14N R18W; Camp Miniwanca, 25 June 1997, *Rafaill 97-64* (Albion College, !A.A. Reznicek). Shaded lowland at edge of woods. Associates include *Arisaema triphyllum* and *Impatiens* sp. NW 1/4 NE 1/4 Sec. 34 T14N R18W; Camp Miniwanca, 13 July 2000, *Rafaill 00-20*

(Albion College, !A.A. Reznicek). Shady lowland swamp. Associates include *Betula alleghaniensis* and *Impatiens* sp. NW 1/4 NE 1/4 Sec. 34 T14N R18W; Camp Miniwanca, 7 July 2003, *Rafaill 03-122* (MICH, !A.A. Reznicek).

LITERATURE CITED

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