

Significant 2002 Hamilton Study Area Plant Records from the Royal Botanical Gardens Herbarium (HAM)

by Carl Rothfels

2002 was a busy year for new records here at the Royal Botanical Gardens Herbarium (HAM). Over the course of the field season we collected or processed a wide variety of plant species that were new for City of Hamilton, Halton Region, Royal Botanical Gardens or even Ontario.

The following list refers to 2002 collections (with some earlier collections mentioned) that are from new sites for the species in question. These records are all represented by specimens at HAM. Other significant Hamilton records that were not linked to a specimen are not listed, but were entered into the Nature Counts database. Similarly, collections from previously known sites (even if the sites were vague, such as “Beverly Swamp”) are not listed, even if the species is regionally significant. The majority of the new records listed are for species not historically native to the Hamilton area (these non-natives are marked with a *), but there are also new native records.

Species listed as “New for City of Hamilton” are those that are not listed in Goodban (1995). There may be post-1995 records for some of these species of which I am unaware. Species listed as “New for Halton Region” are those that are not listed in Varga *et al* (2000), and those listed as “New for RBG” are not listed on T.W.Smith’s draft RBG Checklist as of the beginning of 2002. Species listed as new for Ontario are those not listed in Newmaster *et al* (1998).

New records for RBG are interesting as they likely reflect species that have arrived at RBG post-Tamsalu, since Tamsalu’s 1950s RBG collections were exceptionally extensive.

ACERACEAE

- * *Acer pseudo-platanus* L. **Sycamore Maple**

Uncommon, spreading from large planted trees and scattered as saplings, shrubs, and small trees along the bluff at the edge of the Woodland Cemetery. CJR 26.

AMARANTHACEAE

- * *Amaranthus lividus* L. **Purplish Amaranth**

New for RBG and Halton Region. Determined by

- Contribution of Royal Botanical Gardens #108.

J.S.Pringle, CJR. This purple-leaved amaranth is scattered irregularly around some of the parking pods at RBG Centre where it appears to be being dispersed by Canada Geese. CJR 303, D.Gugler.

APIACEAE

- * *Aethusa cynapium* L. **Fool’s Parsley**

New for the City of Hamilton. Fairly common along wooded paths in sections of the Devil’s Punchbowl ESA. CJR 243, J.Shearer.

- * *Anthriscus caucalis* M. Bieb. **Bur-chervil**

New for Halton Region and Ontario. Determined by CJR, J.S.Pringle. This species was common on disturbed ground near the parking lot for RBG’s Laking Garden. Shortly after the discovery, the owner mowed the site. Doh! We will track the site and see if the *Anthriscus* reappears next year. CJR 115, J.L.Reader.

- * *Myrrhis odorata* (L.) Scop. **Scented Myrrhis**

New for RBG and Halton Region. This large bushy carrot-relative has a strong anise smell to its foliage. It is spreading into the ravines by the RBG scented garden (where it is planted). CJR 190.

ASTERACEAE

- Ambrosia Xhelenae* Rouleau **Hybrid Ragweed**

New for RBG, City of Hamilton, and Ontario. This taxon is a hybrid between Common Ragweed (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*) and the very-different appearing Giant Ragweed (*Ambrosia trifida*). Although the ranges of these two species overlap frequently, the hybrid is very rare. D.Gugler. HAM 15959.

- * *Artemisia vulgaris* L. **Mugwort**

New for RBG, second record for City of Hamilton. First found by Mike Oldham under the skyway (specimen at HAM), this species was located by the Valley Inn Rd over Grindstone Cr. Probably overlooked (i.e. ignored) elsewhere. CJR 296.

* *Centaurea jacea* L. **Brown Knapweed**

New for RBG. Currently rare in the Berry Tract. *Centaurea* are difficult. CJR 185 *et al.*

Erechtites hieracifolia (L.) Raf. ex DC. **Pilewort**

Fifth record for City of Hamilton, fourth Halton Region record. Four stems were seen along 50 Rd in the Devil's Punchbowl ESA and several plants were found on the Christmas tree barrier in the Osprey Marsh (see *Verbena bonariensis* entry for a description of the Christmas tree barriers). This is an early-successional species with excellent dispersal abilities. CJR 304;434, I.Vaithilingam.

* *Silphium perfoliatum* L. var. *perfoliatum* **Cup-plant**

New for RBG. This striking tall prairie species is often planted in naturalized gardens. It has escaped from the RBG woodland garden and is spreading to some open areas in the Hendrie Valley (the rifle range). N.R.Harper, CJR. HAM 15949.

* *Tanacetum parthenium* (L.) Schultz-Bip. **Feverfew**

New for RBG. A small patch seen in Hendrie Valley. CJR 184, J.Shearer.

* *Taraxacum palustre* (Ly.)DC. **Marsh Dandelion**

New for RBG. This small, early flowering dandelion is often overlooked despite its distinctive flowers. We collected it at four sites in Hamilton this year. CJR 9;12;55;128, T.W.Smith, M.Ogilvie, A.Garofalo, *et al.*

* *Tagetes minuta* L. **Wild Marigold**

Needs to be removed from RBG, City of Hamilton, Ontario and Canada lists. All records of this species from Canada have been re-identified as *Artemisia biennis*. Determined CJR, J.S.Pringle. See Pringle (2003).

BALSAMINACEAE

* *Impatiens glandulifera* Royle **Himalayan Balsam**

New for City of Hamilton. This species is not on Goodban's checklist, but is known to have been established at RBG (in the Hendrie Valley) since the 1950s, and we also have a 1950s specimen from McMaster Ravine. We found it this year along the Hamilton/Brantford Rail Trail. This species has the potential to be invasive. CJR 278.

BORAGINACEAE

* *Myosotis stricta* Link **Upright Forget-me-not**

This little weed is probably quite common in lawns

(where it forms a blue fuzz – see *Erodium*) and other disturbed areas. We collected it at two Hamilton locations (bringing the total to 3), and at two nearby Halton locations. It is especially abundant around the McQuesten Monument by the Highlevel Bridge. CJR 24;31;53.

BRASSICACEAE

* *Arabidopsis thaliana* (L.) Heynh. **Mouse-ear Cress**

New for City of Hamilton. This species has apparently been missed in Goodban's checklist; our first collections date to 1957, and it is now fairly common in weedy areas around the RBG arboretum and McMaster University. CJR 25;33.

* *Cardamine hirsuta* L. **Hairy Bitter-cress**

New for RBG, City of Hamilton, and Halton Region. Verified by P.W.Ball. This small cress is a common weed of flowerbeds in RBG, and is also in a few other weedy locations – lawns, path edges, etc. It has a strong basal rosette, with few to no stem leaves. Four locations in Hamilton, and three in Halton. CJR 10;11;41;52;57;73;74;122;256, D.Gugler, J.L.Reader, C.Almack.

* *Cardamine impatiens* L.

New for RBG and City of Hamilton. Four plants of this interesting *Cardamine* were found around the RBG boat-house. Origin unknown (but not planted). CJR 88.

Cardamine Xmaxima (Nutt.) Alph.Wood **Greater Toothwort**

Fourth City of Hamilton record. This hybrid (which, in this case, should be confirmed) was common in the talus at the Tiffany Falls ESA. The leaf morphology can be variable, but a rhizome character can be very useful. CJR 14 *et al.*

* *Coronopus didymus* (L.)JE.Sm. **Lesser Wart-cress**

New for RBG and City of Hamilton. Determined by J.S.Pringle. This bizarre-looking little mustard is a common weed in some of the Rock Garden flowerbeds. CJR 71.

* *Descurainia sophia* (L) Webb ex Prantl **Flixweed**

New for RBG. A weed of disturbed sites. CJR 109, J.L.Reader.

* *Lepidium ruderales* L. **Stinking Peppergrass**

We now have 6 records of this weed from the City of Hamilton, and one from Halton Region. It is probably widespread in disturbed areas – roadsides, flower planters, pavement cracks – in our urban areas. CJR 120;121;196.

CAMPANULACEAE

Campanula americana L. **Tall Bellflower**

Seventh City of Hamilton Record. Several individuals seen on the cliff rim at Clappison's Escarpment Woods (FLAM-48). M.Ogilvie, *et al.* HAM 16225.

CARYOPHYLLACEAE

* *Cerastium pumilum* Curtis **Dwarf Chickweed**

New for RBG, City of Hamilton, and Halton Region. Identification verified by J.K.Morton. This small annual chickweed is very similar to *Cerastium semidecandrum* and is rarer and thus probably overlooked. We collected one specimen from Westdale, and one from the RBG Rose Garden lawn. CJR 288;430.

* *Cerastium semidecandrum* L. **Small Chickweed**

New for RBG. Identifications verified by J.K.Morton. Fairly common in disturbed sites around Hamilton. This annual species looks very (very) similar to *Cerastium pumilum* and is also easily confused with the common perennial *Cerastium fontanum* (Mouse-eared Chickweed). Tamsalu made a number of collections of this species, but misidentified them as *C. fontanum*. CJR 43;47;65;289;429.

* *Sagina procumbens* L. **Bird's-eye**

New for RBG and City of Hamilton. This tiny flower grows in cracks in paving stones, the edges of roads, and other exposed inhospitable sites. We collected it from four sites in Hamilton this year, and it is common to uncommon in driveways in the Westdale area (I saw it several times while looking for a house to rent. A classic botanizing opportunity). CJR 87;89;110;132, J.L.Reader, J.C.Shearer.

* *Spergularia media* (L.) C.Pres. ex Griseb. **Salt-marsh Sand Spurry**

Third City of Hamilton record. I thought that I had the first Hamilton record for this species, until I found two 1995 collections by that rascally Oldham in HAM. It is common around the Mud St./Mount Albion parking lot access to the Red Hill Valley. CJR 275.

* *Vaccaria hispanica* (Miller) Rauschert. **Spanish Cowherb**

New for City of Hamilton. This species was overlooked in Goodban's checklist. We have a Burgess specimen from 1888, which he collected along the railway between Hamilton and Dundas. It has apparently not been collected since. Burgess. HAM 11573.

CHENOPODIACEAE

Chenopodium capitatum (L.) Asch. **Strawberry Blight**

New for RBG, sixth record of City of Hamilton. Specimens determined by P.W.Ball. There was one record in HAM erroneously attributed to RBG property (it was from McMaster campus). Prior to this year's collection (from the mudflat off the tip of the willows in Cootes), the McMaster specimen was the only RBG record. CJR 438, T.Sword.

CYPERACEAE

Carex cryptolepis MacKenzie **Small Yellow Sedge**

Second City of Hamilton record. This species, which looks similar to *Carex flava*, was found at the Milgrove Loam Pits with *Carex flava*, *Carex viridula* and *Carex Xsubviridula* (*C.flava* x *C.viridula*). It was clearly distinguishable from *C.flava* by its smaller size, green colour, and because it was not yet completely ripe at the time of collection whereas the *C.flava* spikelets were all over-ripe and shattering (all the perigynia were falling off). It looked most like *Carex Xsubviridula*, but was distinguishable by its larger perigynia with full achenes (the hybrid, which is sterile, produces aborted achenes). CJR 385, J.S.Pringle.

Carex diandra Schrank **Lesser Panicked Sedge**

Second City of Hamilton record. One clump was seen in an open/shrubby marsh in the Beverly Swamp ESA. CJR 175, J.L.Reader.

Carex sychnocephala J.Carey **Dense Long-beaked Sedge**

Second City of Hamilton record. At the edge of a seasonal pond in the Milgrove Loam Pits fen. Now this is a neat Ovaless! Ironically, research at HAM after the discovery unearthed a previously overlooked *C. sychnocephala* specimen from the same location, collected in 1957 by F.Caesar. J.S.Pringle, CJR 268.

Carex trisperma var. *billingsii* **Billings' Sedge**

New for City of Hamilton. This taxon is common in the Copetown Bog, where it has apparently been collected previously (Bill Crins, pers. comm.), but it is not on Goodban's checklist. At Copetown it co-occurs with the more commonly found *Carex trisperma* var. *trisperma*, but is relatively easily separated by its filiform leaves and smaller spikelets and perigynia. Researchers at the University of Michigan are looking at the relationship between these two taxa, and attempting to determine whether *C.t.billingsii* warrants elevation to species status. CJR 277.

Carex trisperma Dewey var. *trisperma* **Three-seeded Sedge**

Fourth City of Hamilton record. This small sedge was found in several areas of the Beverly Swamp ESA. CJR 140;180, C.Hunsberger, J.L.Reader, P.Smith.

Carex viridula Michaux ssp. *viridula* **Greenish Sedge**

Second City of Hamilton record. This spiky little guy was fairly common at the Milgrove Loam Pits fen, where it co-occurred with the closely related *C. cryptolepis* and *C. flava*. At this location, it also hybridizes with *C. flava* to form *C. Xsubviridula*. CJR 237.

Carex Xsubviridula **Hybrid Greenish Sedge**

New for City of Hamilton. Determined by J.S.Pringle, CJR. *Carex Xsubviridula* is the hybrid offspring of *C. viridula* and *C. flava*. It is fairly common at the Milgrove Loam Pits fen. CJR 377;381;382, J.S.Pringle.

Cladium mariscoides (Muhlenb.) Torr. **Twig-rush**

New for City of Hamilton. This tall sedge looks similar to the true rushes – *Juncus* spp., and is dominant in sections of the Milgrove Loam Pits fen. CJR 264.

Cyperus bipartitus Torrey **River Cyperus**

Third City of Hamilton record. It was fairly common along margin of a small pond in the Beverly Swamp ESA. CJR 405.

Cyperus diandrus Torr. **Small Cyperus**

New for RBG and City of Hamilton. A small *Cyperus*, very closely related to *C. bipartitus*, this species was abundant in a dwarf form on the s. shore of West Pond. CJR 299;300, T.Sword.

Eleocharis intermedia Sch. **Intermediate Spikerush**

Second City of Hamilton record. This species is common on mud in some areas of Cootes Paradise and the Hendrie Valley as water levels descend. The second location is along a small pond in the Beverly Swamp area. Probably overlooked. CJR 412.

Scirpus pungens M.Vahl **Three-square**

Fourth City of Hamilton Record. A small patch on a beach on the west side of Carroll's Bay. CJR 295, I.Vaithilingam.

ELAEAGNACEAE

* *Elaeagnus angustifolia* L. **Russian Olive**

New for RBG. This record should be verified; the

specimen appears to be this species. Both of the *Elaeagnus* found in southern Ontario are aggressive weedy species that are still often planted by landscapers. CJR 161.

EUPHORBIACEAE

* *Euphorbia helioscopia* L. **Sun Spurge**

New for City of Hamilton. It was overlooked on Goodban's checklist; the first Hamilton record in HAM is from 1889!

FABACEAE

* *Anthyllis vulneraria* L. **Lady's Fingers**

New for City of Hamilton. Fairly common, but local, in disturbed ground (a pipeline right of way) in the Beverly Swamp ESA. Later discovered independently by D.Gugler. CJR 143.

* *Coronilla varia* L. **Crown Vetch**

New for RBG. This introduced vetch is often planted along roadways to stabilize slopes and ditches. We found it at four locations in RBG suggesting that it has been overlooked or is spreading rapidly. CJR 223;249;262;424, N.R.Harper.

* *Trifolium arvense* L. **Rabbit-foot Clover**

New for City of Hamilton. An uncommon weed, it was found at the top end of Dundas Valley around a cornfield. D.Gugler. HAM 16134.

GERANIACEAE

* *Erodium cicutarium* (L.) L'her. ssp. *cutarium* **Stork's-bill**

Second to seventh City of Hamilton records. This close relative of the geraniums has pinnately divided leaves and often grows as a weed in large lawns (where it forms a pink fuzz when it is in bloom). Overlooked. CJR 13;18;23;134;141.

* *Geranium pusillum* L. **Small-flowered Crane's-bill**

New for RBG and second City of Hamilton record. It is fairly common along a path in the arboretum. CJR 188, J.L.Reader.

HALORAGACEAE

Proserpinaca palustris L. **Mermaid-weed**

Third and fourth City of Hamilton records. This species is closely related to the milfoils (*Myriophyllum* spp.). It has finely divided leaves when it grows underwater, and toothed undivided leaves when it grows above the water. It was locally common at the Milgrove Loam Pits fen and around a seasonally wet area just west of the Safari Road Beverly Swamp CA parking lot. CJR 273;391, J.S.Pringle.

HIPPOCASTANACEAE

- * *Aesculus glabra* Willd. var. *glabra* **Ohio Buckeye**

One small tree, about eight feet tall, in the Hendrie Valley. Origin unknown. Also naturalized in Redhill Creek Escarpment Valley. M.Ogilvie, A.Garofalo, CJR, *et al.* CJR 16; HAM 16222.

- * *Aesculus pavia* L. **Red Buckeye**

New for City of Hamilton, and Ontario. Over ten young trees were found naturalized in the Redhill Creek Escarpment Valley. M.Ogilvie, A.Garofalo. *et al.* HAM 16221.

- * *Aesculus hippocastanum* L. **Horse Chestnut**

Four records from this season, including Woodland Cemetery, Battlefield Park, Dundas, and Hendrie Valley. Generally found in brushy weedy woodlots as an escapee. Probably overlooked. CJR 17;27;124;155.

JUNCACEAE

- * *Juncus gerardii* Loisel. **Blackrush**

We now have five records of this rush for the City of Hamilton, starting with M.J. Oldham's 1995 collections. CJR 297.

LAMIACEAE

- Lycopus asper* Greene **Western Bugleweed**

New for City of Hamilton and Halton Region. Goodban overlooked this species; the first Hamilton records date from 1957. In 2002 we found it in Halton, as well – on the Christmas tree barrier in Pond One, and alongside Grindstone Creek under the Plains Road bridge. It's considered provincially rare (S2) and native, but is weedy in habit. CJR 314;415;416, I.Vaithilingam.

- * *Melissa officinalis* ssp. *officinalis* **Lemon-balm**

New for RBG and City of Hamilton. One clump in the south shore area of Cootes Paradise. It was growing alongside a small path in a wooded ravine-top, with other weeds. CJR 292.

Pycnanthemum virginianum (L.) Durand & Jackson ex Fern. & Robinson **Virginia Mountain Mint**

Third City of Hamilton Record. There is one record of this species in Goodban, a second population was found by Paul O'Hara in meadow up highway six (pers. comm.), and Albert and Megan found the third this summer. A.Garofalo, M.Ogilvie, *et al.* HAM 16227.

LILIACEAE

- * *Allium sativum* L. **Garden Garlic**

New for City of Hamilton. Fairly common, local, in a dry beach community on the west side of Carroll's Bay. CJR 315, I.Vaithilingam.

- * *Allium vineale* L. ssp. *vineale* **Field Garlic**

New for City of Hamilton. Abundant, local, on weedy slopes at Kay Drage Park. CJR 236.

MALVACEAE

- * *Hibiscus moscheutos* L. ssp. *moscheutos* **Swamp Rose-mallow**

New for RBG and City of Hamilton. This species is a rare native wetland species, but is also commonly planted as an ornamental. This record is almost certainly of non-native origin as the plants were growing at the base of the hwy embankment in a weedy, dry site. CJR 313.

OPHIOGLOSSACEAE

- Botrychium multifidum* (S.Gmelin) Rupr. **Leathery Grapefern**

Third record for City of Hamilton. In maple swamp at Mountsberg ESA; 5-10 individuals seen. M.Thompson, A.Garofalo, M.Ogilvie *et al.* HAM 16120.

OXALIDACEAE

- * *Oxalis corniculata* L. **Creeping Wood-sorrel**

New for Halton Region. This wood sorrel can be distinguished from its relatives by its trailing stem. It is a weed in disturbed areas of the lawn at RBG Centre, and (a pre-2002 collection) by the greenhouse at McMaster University (Hamilton). CJR 303.

PAPAVERACEAE

- * *Macleaya cordata* (Willd.) R. Br. **Plume-poppy**

New for RBG and City of Hamilton. Determined by J.S.Pringle. This is a large plant occasionally planted as an ornamental. Its occurrence on the east shore of Cootes Paradise is mysterious – it could be a persistent population (but from what?) or it could be spontaneous. CJR 318.

PHYTOLACCACEAE

- (*) *Phytolacca americana* L. **Pokeweed**

Sixth record for City of Hamilton, Second record for Halton Region. This species is spreading from plantings to

areas in both the Hamilton and Halton sections of RBG; in some areas it has become locally common. I also found one plant in the forested area by Battlefield Park, where it is presumably a native occurrence. CJR 284, N.R.Harper. HAM 15933.

POACEAE

Alopecurus aequalis Sobol. **Water Foxtail**

Third Hamilton record for this small grass, often found in areas of receding water levels. Common around the margin of the small pond by the rail trail parking lot at the Copetown Bog. CJR 275.

Ammophila breviligulata Fern. **Beach Grass**

Second Hamilton record for this huge beach grass (which CJR nearly misidentified as corn...). It formed a good-sized colony on the beach at outlet of Stoney Creek. A.Garofalo, M.Ogilvie *et al.* HAM 15548.

Bromus kalmii A.Gray **Kalm's Brome**

Third City of Hamilton record. Rare, local, at bottom of Rock Chapel Sanctuary near the railway tracks. CJR 221.

Bromus latiglumis (Shear) A.Hitchc. **Tall Brome**

Fourth City of Hamilton record. Local in rich hardwoods at edge of seasonal channel in Borer's Creek Conservation Area. Also seen (common) along Spencer Creek between Cootes Paradise and Dundas. CJR 239;279, J.S.Pringle, N.R.Harper.

Bromus pubescens Muhlenb. ex Willd. **Hairy Brome**

Fourth City of Hamilton record. Uncommon in rich moist forest in Battlefield Park. CJR 157.

* *Calamagrostis epigejos* (L.) Roth **Feathertop**

New for RBG. A patch planted behind the Auxiliary Gardens in the Hendrie Park area is spreading. J.S.Pringle, CJR, N.R.Harper. HAM 15931.

* *Panicum dichotomiflorum* Michaux **Fall Panic Grass**

Found along a roadside in the Beverly Swamp ESA. CJR 370.

* *Poa bulbosa* L. **Bulbous Blue Grass**

New for RBG and City of Hamilton. The City of Hamilton record is from 2000 (CJR 281) and we found this taxon again this year by the Laking Garden Parking lot. This *Poa* is a strange one with most of its spikelets having been converted into bulblets that germinate while they're still on the plant. This record should be verified. CJR 273, J.L.Reader.

* *Poa nemoralis* L. **Woodland Blue Grass**

The abundant *Poa* in areas of the south shore trail (especially the Sassafras Point area) was identified as this non-native species, a surprising and alarming determination. *Poas* are difficult, and this determination should be verified. CJR 294.

* *Puccinellia distans* (Jacq.) Parl. **Reflexed Saltmarsh Grass**

New for RBG. This halophytic (salt-loving) grass is fairly common along roadways that are sprayed with salt in the winter. CJR 390.

* *Setaria verticillata* (L.) P.Beauv. **Whorled Foxtail**

New for RBG. A sticky-prickly foxtail of disturbed sites. At two sites in RBG. CJR 266;312, J.S.Pringle, N.R.Harper.

* *Sorghum bicolor* (L.) Moen. ssp. *bicolor* **Sorghum**

New for RBG and City of Hamilton. This tall corn-like grass was growing with other weeds on freshly disturbed ground at the RBG compost facility. CJR 317.

Sporobolus cryptandrus (Torrey) A.Gray ssp. *fuscicolus* (Hook.) E.K.Jones & Fassett **Sand Dropseed**

Fourth City of Hamilton record. This grass was uncommon along the bike trail paralleling Spencer Creek between the Cootes Dr. bridge and the Dundas Rd bridge. CJR 280.

Sporobolus vaginiflorus (Torrey ex A.Gray) Torrey ex Alph. Wood **Ensheathed Dropseed**

New for RBG. This species is difficult to distinguish from *S. neglectus* Nash without close inspection. It was growing around RBG Centre. CJR 365.

* *Triticum aestivum* L. **Summer Wheat**

New for City of Hamilton. Overlooked in Goodban's checklist; there are two records from Cootes Paradise in the 1950s in HAM. I found it along the railway tracks in the Devil's Punch Bowl ESA. It is probably widespread around fields and railway tracks (it falls off the grain cars). CJR 151.

POLYGONACEAE

Polygonum pensylvanicum L. **Bigseed Smartweed**

New for RBG. We found this large-fruited species in two sites around the shore of Cootes Paradise (the mudflat off the willows, and the e. shore). Although native, it likes disturbed sites and could be a recent introduction, or it could have been overlooked since it looks similar to the more-common *Polygonum persicaria* L. and *Polygonum lapathifolium* L. CJR 298;302, T.Sword, G.Lewer, I.Vaithilingam.

POTAMOGETONACEAE

Potamogeton natans L. **Floating Pondweed**

Sixth City of Hamilton record. We collected this species in the Spencer Creek in the Beverly Swamp ESA, and it is likely common along Spencer Creek for much of its length (for example, we saw it again, abundantly, in the Donald Farm complex). It, like other *Potamogeton*, has probably been overlooked. CJR 144, J.L.Reader.

PRIMULACEAE

Lysimachia terrestris (L.) B.S.P. **Swamp Candles**

Fifth City of Hamilton record. Abundant in the wetlands and floodplain flats of Crook's Hollow Reservoir and C.A. dam (FLAM-34). A.Garofalo, M.Ogilvie, *et al.* HAM 16226.

RANUNCULACEAE

Actaea Xludovicii B.Boivin **Hybrid Baneberry**

One clump found in the Devil's Punchbowl ESA, with both parental species in close proximity. CJR 305.

SCROPHULARIACEAE

* *Veronica austriaca* ssp. *vahlii*. **Vahl's Speedwell**

New for RBG, City of Hamilton, and Ontario. Determined: CJR, T.W.Smith, T.Reznicek. This taxon was collected by Tamsalu in the 1950s, but misidentified. Its status is somewhat unclear since he collected it from the "shore at Old Guelph," a location that is vague and the source of many records of cultivated-style collections by Tamsalu. HAM 10566;10567;10569;15908.

* *Veronica filiformis* Sm. **Hair-like Speedwell**

New for RBG and second and third City of Hamilton records. First found by D. Gugler at McMaster, and I later found a small patch in Cootes Paradise by Cootes Drive and Spencer Creek. One of the rarer weedy *Veronica* spp. here. D.Gugler, CJR. CJR 48. HAM 15075.

* *Veronica persica* Poir. **Persian Speedwell**

New for City of Hamilton. Overlooked on Goodban's checklist; the first Hamilton record in HAM is from the nineteenth century. We collected this species twice, but it is widespread. CJR 15;123, A.Garofalo, M.Ogilvie, *et al.*

* *Veronica polita* Fr. **Wayside Speedwell**

New for RBG, City of Hamilton, and Halton Region. This species has been overlooked, perhaps because of its similarity to *Veronica persica* Poir. We collected it five

times from City of Hamilton and twice from Halton Region. CJR 28;29;30;45;46;49;111, T.W.Smith, D.Gugler.

SOLANACEAE

* *Datura stramonium* L. **Jimsonweed**

New for RBG and City of Hamilton. This species, responsible for the poisonings (none fatal, that I know of) of several young people in the Hamilton and Kitchener/Waterloo areas this year, is locally common in highly disturbed sites. CJR 260;293, J.S.Pringle, N.R.Harper.

ULMACEAE

Celtis occidentalis L. **Hackberry**

Fourth City of Hamilton record. One small tree seen in a ravine on the north shore of Cootes Paradise. CJR 51, J. Tindall, Karen, P.Colgan.

VERBENACEAE

* *Verbena bonariensis* L. **Purpletop Vervain**

New for RBG, Halton Region, and Ontario. One plant of this striking species was found on the Osprey Marsh Christmas tree barrier (the rows of old Christmas trees placed in the mud to prevent carp from travelling from Grindstone Creek into Osprey Marsh). It might have arrived in the treads of the machinery used to place the trees in the winter. This species is not in the RBG cultivated plants database, and thus has theoretically never been planted on RBG property. I did find one plant of this species at the Childrens' Garden in Westdale (not operated by RBG). CJR 435, I.Vaithilingam.

References:

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