

Galium parisiense var. *leiocarpum* Tausch, New for Oklahoma

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While doing some routine plant collecting in Chickasha in June of 1999 I found a *Galium* with which I was not familiar. However, when I tried to key it out in Smith (1994) it immediately keyed to *Galium parisiense* L. var. *leiocarpum* Tausch. It also keyed out in Fernald (1950), Britton (1907), and Munz and Keck (1963) and Hickman (1993). This species is originally from Europe.

OKLAHOMA: GRADY COUNTY:
Chickasha, Walmart Plaza on Ponderosa Drive;
T6N, R7W, SW 1/4 Sec 3; open disturbed grassy
area on west side of street, red clay and some
sand; elevation ca 1100 ft; scattered to locally
abundant in ca 5 acre area; flowers
greenish-white, some with red-brown corolla
lobes; 9 June 1999; L.K. Magrath 20590
(OCLA). Additional collections at same site: 25
June 1999; L.K. Magrath, Pete Taylor, et al
20693 (OCLA). 27 May 2001; L.K. Magrath
21449 (OCLA). 24 June 2001; L.K. Magrath
21452 (OCLA). Plants dead but with some seeds
persisting.

OKLAHOMA: OKLAHOMA
COUNTY: Oklahoma City, Will Rogers Park and
Garden Center at NW 36th Street and I-240; grassy
area near edge of wooded area southeast of Rose
Garden; scattered; most plants already dead, but
with some seeds persisting; 16 June 2001; L.K.
Magrath 21451 (OCLA)

Also found at the same site: *Galium
pedemontanum* (Bell.) All. OKLAHOMA:
GRADY COUNTY: Chickasha, Walmart Plaza on
Ponderosa Drive; T6N, R7W, SW 1/4 Sec 3; open
disturbed grassy area on west side of street, red
clay and some sand; elevation ca 1100 ft; scattered
to locally abundant in ca 5 acre area; flowers
yellow to greenish-yellow; 25 April 2001;
L.K. Magrath, Stephen Garvin, Val Maseykin et
al. 21344 (OCLA); another collection at same site:
27 May 2001; L. K. Magrath 21448 (OCLA).

Significance: *Galium parisiense* L. var.
leiocarpum Tausch represents an extension west
from north central Arkansas (Baxter, Fulton,
Newton & Pope Counties). This is a rather
significant jump to the west from Ozarkian
woodlands habit to a relatively open mid-grass
prairie habitat. The *Galium pedemontanum*
(Bell.) All. is an extension northward and

westward from southern and eastern Oklahoma
(Taylor & Taylor 1994). I would guess that both
species arrived in Chickasha via freight being
delivered to the WalMart Shopping Center. The
Oklahoma City location is near an area with
numerous visitors, and next to an interstate
highway, so there are several possibilities that
might account for its presence at this location. It
may be worth checking similar locations in other
cities in Oklahoma for these species and other
possible introductions.

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