

P. umbrosum Le Conte. (*P. Ashei* Pearson; see Hubbard, RHODORA xiv. 173, 1912). Dry rocky woods; Manchester, Lynn, Melrose, Malden, West Roxbury, Weston, Blue Hills, West Quincy, Walpole.

P. villosissimum Nash. Parker Street, Boston (*C. W. Swan*, June 19, 1885); Framingham (*E. C. Smith*, June 29, 1898).

P. virgatum L. Meadows and edges of marshes along the coast, reaching inland to Boxford, Concord and Bridgewater.

P. virgatum L., var. **cubense** Griseb. (var. *obtusum* Wood of Gray's Manual, 7th ed., 1908; see Hitchcock & Chase, Contrib. U. S. Nat. Herb. xv. 92, 1910). Occasional near the coast.

P. Wernerii Scribn. Dry soil, Winchester, Wellesley, Dover, Natick, Sherborn, Westwood, Walpole, Holbrook, Norwell.

P. xanthophysum Gray. Gravel pit, Lowell Junction, Andover (*A. S. Pease*, Aug. 7, 1903); railway spur, Wellesley (*K. M. Wiegand*, July 24, 1912); Framingham, not uncommon (*E. C. Smith* in RHODORA i. 98, 1899).

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A NORTHERN VARIETY OF ERIGERON RAMOSUS.

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FOR several years botanists collecting in the northern United States and Canada have been puzzled by a plant which seemed to be near *Erigeron ramosus*, as known farther south, but which in its sparser and more divergent pubescence often seemed referable to *E. annuus*. In studying the plants of western Newfoundland it was found that there the only *Erigeron* of this group had these transitional characters, and in the absence of *E. annuus* from the island obviously could not be considered a hybrid between that species and *E. ramosus*. A recent study of all available material shows that this tendency of *E. ramosus*, with the foliage greener than in the ordinary plant and with the stem

and leaf-surfaces sparsely hispidulous or nearly glabrous, is the characteristic form of *E. ramosus* in western Newfoundland, the Maritime Provinces and northern New England, where typical *E. ramosus* is apparently very local. This same form is found across northern New York, around the Great Lakes, and in the northwestern states, where it was long ago noted by Gray, who, on account of its pubescence placed it with *E. annuus* of eastern America, with the comment: "also in Oregon, &c., in a form quite intermediate between this [*E. annuus*] and the following [*E. strigosus* Muhl. i. e. *E. ramosus* (Walt.) B S P.]"¹ In its habit and in the entire margin of the upper leaves the plant so strongly resembles *E. ramosus* that, in spite of the more spreading character of the pubescence, it seems better treated as a northern variety of this widely distributed species. In its geographic range it is closely paralleled by a large number of plants occurring in the cooler moist regions of the Canadian zone. South of northern New England the plant is apparently rare in the East, but a few specimens indicate that, like many other Canadian plants, it extends southward through the hill country of western Connecticut.

A specimen in the Gray Herbarium from western New York, bearing the Torrey & Gray label, is marked *E. strigosus* β , and from its nearly glabrous stem and leaves is undoubtedly the plant described by Torrey & Gray as *E. strigosus* β with "stem and leaves nearly glabrous; the latter almost constantly entire, except the lowest."² Torrey & Gray, however, cited as a synonym *E. integrifolium* Bigelow,³ which was described by Bigelow with the stem "smooth...with barely perceptible pubescence"; but, although a fragment of Bigelow's plant preserved in the Gray Herbarium shows his *E. integrifolium* to have a smoothish stem, the leaves are closely cinereous-strigose as in the ordinary form of the species.

Since no name seems to have been previously applied to the northern plant it may be called:—

ERIGERON RAMOSUS (Walt.) B S P., var. **septentrionalis**, n. var., caule foliisque tenuiter hispidulis vel fere glabris.—Resembling *E. ramosus* but with the stem and leaves sparingly hispidulous or nearly glabrous, instead of cinereous-strigose.—Newfoundland and eastern Quebec to northern and western New England, northern and western New York, and Michigan; and from Washington to California and

¹ Gray, Synop. Fl. i. pt. 2, 219 (1884).

² Torr. & Gray, Fl. ii. 176 (1841).

³ Bigel. Fl. Bost. ed. 2, 302 (1824).

Idaho. Type specimen in the Gray Herbarium: gravelly thickets along Harry's River, Newfoundland, August 18, 1910, *Fernald & Wiegand*, no. 4137.

Specimens examined:—NEWFOUNDLAND: see above. MAGDALEN ISLANDS: rocky slope of East Cape, Coffin Island, August 17, 1912, *Fernald, Long & St. John*, no. 6170. QUEBEC: dry open soil, Douglstown, August 21 & 22, 1904, *Collins, Fernald & Pease*; dry pasture, Bic, July 18, 1905, *J. R. Churchill*; boggy meadow, Bic, July 20, 1907, *Fernald & Collins*, no. 1189; ledges, west shore of Lake Memphremagog, August 5, 1903 (unusual form with villous base of stem), *J. R. Churchill*. PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND: dry railroad bank, Mt. Stewart, July 30, 1912, *Fernald, Bartram, Long & St. John*, no. 6168; dry sandy open fields, Tignish, August 6, 1912, *Fernald, Long & St. John*, no. 6169. NOVA SCOTIA: Pictou, July 21, 1907, *C. B. Robinson*, no. 532. MAINE: moist clayey slope, upper St. John River at Little Black River Rapids, September 11, 1907, *J. A. Cushman*, no. 2079; dry larch swamp, Presque Isle, July 12, 1902, *Williams, Collins & Fernald*; fields, Orono, September 19, 1889, *Fernald*; gravelly bank, Dover, September 1, 1894, *Fernald*; dry thicket, Sangerville, June 29, 1895, *Fernald*; Gilead, 1897, *Kate Furbish*; Fayette, 1876, *K. Furbish*; South Poland, 1893, 1895, *K. Furbish*; Brunswick, 1890, *K. Furbish*. NEW HAMPSHIRE: Sinclair's Hill, Franconia, September 28, 1896, *Faxon*; open ground, Jaffrey, July 14, 1897, *B. L. Robinson*, no. 214. VERMONT: Willoughby, July 24, 1896, *G. G. Kennedy*. CONNECTICUT: Middlebury, June 28, 1896, *W. M. Shepardson*; dry fields, Greenwich, July 9, 1907, *Cushman & Sanford*, no. 1139. NEW YORK: Axton, July 9, 1899, *Rowlee, Wiegand & Hastings*; western N. Y., *A. Gray*. MICHIGAN: fields and slashings, Turin, Marquette County, August 8, 1901, *Bronson Barlow*. IDAHO: neglected orchards and ditch banks, New Plymouth, June 24, 1910, *J. F. Macbride*, no. 278. WASHINGTON: Cascade Mountains to Fort Colville, 1860, *Lyall*; Pullman, July 10, 1894, *Piper*, no. 1821; Cheney, *Mrs. Susan Tucker*, no. 99. OREGON: Union County, 1878, *Cusick*; wet meadows, John Day's River, July 5, 1897, *Cusick*, no. 1695. CALIFORNIA: Plumas County, 1875, *J. G. Lemmon*, no. 1005.