

2016 January *Guess that Plant*



Diodia teres Walter, Buttonweed, "Poorjoe"

The January *Guess that Plant* is the common *Diodia teres*, otherwise known as buttonweed or Poorjoe. The plant is a member of the madder family, Rubiaceae. Poorjoe is common on disturbed soils, especially xeric sandy substrates of the Coastal Plain such as the conditions visible in the photo (above). Mary Hough (1983) defines all counties sand Sussex Gloucester as its State distribution. I personally know it exists in Gloucester County, since it grows on the edge of a farm field next to my home in Franklin Township. The same presence is suspected for Sussex County.

Poorjoe is also known for small wet depression in the center of our dirt roads and is sometimes found in association with *Aristida longispica* and *Rhynchospora knieskernii*. The plant flowers from July until frost.

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