

2020 November *Guess that Plant*



Hydrocotyle ranunculoides L.f., Bicknell, Floating Marsh Pennywort

The November 2020 *Guess that Plant* was a native species that is found in marshes and lakes edges. The floating marsh pennywort is a member of the Apiaceae, the carrot family. New Jersey is home to five species of pennyworts. All are obligate wetland species, and all have an association with open water or marsh edges. Mary Hough (1983) cites our *Guess that Plant* in only one county, Salem. Until recent times, this plant was endangered, with a S1 rank.

Recent field work I completed in Gloucester County along the banks of the Raccoon Creek discover massive stands of this plant, prompting me to question my identification. Apparently this plant is on the move, and it is now present beyond its Salem County haunts. Our State botanist, David Snyder, indicates this plant is now found in freshwater marshes beyond Salem, and it is now along the freshwater tidal marshes bordering the Delaware River, and in now expanded into Middlesex and Berge Counties (USDA Plants Database).

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