

OXALIDACEAE – WOODSORREL FAMILY

Plant: mostly herbs, shrubs or rarely trees

Stem:

Root:

Leaves: alternate, or all basal, usually palmate (rarely pinnate) and often ternate (3 leaflets); no stipules

Flowers: mostly perfect, regular (actinomorphic); 5 sepals, 5 petals separated at base or not; 5 or 10 stamens, sometimes in 2 cycles; ovary superior, 5 carpels, styles separate

Fruit: berry or capsule – often 5 chambered, often oily

Other: mostly tropical; mostly woodsorrels in N.A.; Dicotyledons Group

Genera: 3+ genera; locally *Oxalis* (wood-sorrel)

OXALIDACEAE – WOODSORREL FAMILY

Creeping Woodsorrel; *Oxalis corniculata* L.

Lady's Woodsorrel; *Oxalis fontana* Bunge

[Big] Great Yellow Woodsorrel; *Oxalis grandis* Small

Upright Yellow Woodsorrel [Common Yellow Oxalis]; *Oxalis stricta* L.

Violet Woodsorrel; *Oxalis violacea* L.

Creeping Woodsorrel

Oxalis corniculata L.

Oxalidaceae (Woodsorrel Family)

Bald Knob National Wildlife Refuge, White County, Arkansas

Notes: vine-like; 5-petaled flower, yellow (without purple border), small; pod pedicle erect and pod hairs somewhat spreading, Leaves with 3 notched leaflets, mostly arise vertically from stem, stipules present; vine often roots at nodes; spring to fall

[V Max Brown, 2007]



Lady's Woodsorrel

Oxalis fontana Bunge

Oxalidaceae (Woodsorrel Family)

Maumee River Metroparks, Lucas County, Ohio

Notes: 5-petaled flower, yellow; pod pedicle erect and pod hairs more spreading, longer, and not as dense as *O. stricta*; 3 notched leaflets; more erect plant than spreading, common; spring to fall (difficult group)

[V Max Brown, 2004]



[Big] Great Yellow Woodsorrel

Oxalis grandis Small

Oxalidaceae (Woodsorrel Family)

Maumee River Metroparks, Lucas County, Ohio

Notes: 5-petaled flower, yellow, flower > 1.5 cm; pod pedicle erect and pod hairs short and spreading, 3 notched leaflets, often with a purplish edge; thick and hairy stem, fairly stout and usually not branched, plant erect; spring to summer

[V Max Brown, 2007]



Upright Yellow Woodsorrel [Common Yellow Oxalis]



Oxalis stricta L.

Oxalidaceae (Woodsorrel Family)

Maumee River Metroparks, Lucas County, Ohio

Notes: 5-petaled flower, yellow; fruit pods upright and very densely (mat) haired giving a silver or grey appearance; spring to fall

[V Max Brown, 2004]



Violet Woodsorrel

Oxalis violacea L.
Oxalidaceae (Woodsorrel Family)
Shawnee State Forest, Scioto
County, Ohio



Notes: 5-petaled flower, light violet to purple to white, from an umbel usually on a scape, flowers stand well above leaves; 3 leaflets, green above and violet to reddish below, mature leaves often marked with a reddish streak; spring to summer and again in fall
[V Max Brown, 2009]

