



Heart-leaved Plantain - Plum Run Prairie. *Plantago cordata* is an extremely rare plant that grows in clear, dolomitic stream beds that have a steady, unfluctuating water flow. Such undisturbed sites can only occur in spring-fed creeks buffered by significant acreage of woodlands where the surrounding forest acts as a sponge to evenly regulate water run-off. At one time heart-leaved plantain was not considered uncommon in the wild, but due to watershed disruptions and forest removal, the plant is now extremely rare in every state in which it was originally found, except in Missouri -- its last safe refuge. A few years ago logging at the Plum Run site drastically decreased *Plantago's* numbers down to a few individuals. However, since its purchase by the Arc, many young seedlings are coming up in the creek bed, giving one of the few hopes in Ohio for the future of the species.