

Kannakko, Kris (MNR)

From: Coulson, Daryl (MNR)
Sent: May 28, 2004 2:38 PM
To: Hiscock, Nancy (MNR)
Subject: FW: Braeside Alvar

Daryl Coulson

District Ecologist
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-----Original Message-----

From: Coulson, Daryl (MNR)
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2004 8:38 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Braeside Alvar

s.21

Hi [REDACTED]

I have dropped a copy of the two 1995 Canadian Field-Naturalist articles on alvars in the mail for you. They are not crisp but are readable. They are from a natural history digital library I am compiling for papers or topics relevant to Renfrew County. The Alvars of Ontario book is available from Ontario Nature (Federation of Ontario Naturalist's) for a reasonable price if you are interested in purchasing, otherwise I can let you borrow mine for a while.

Also, you might be interested in a 1999 report on conserving Great Lake alvars (5.1Mb pdf) available at:
<http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/ecopage/shore/alvars/>

Yes, I would be interested in a visit to Braeside with you. Let's arrange something for sure sometime this summer and/or fall.

Daryl Coulson

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-----Original Message-----

s.21 From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2004 9:32 PM
To: daryl.coulson@mnr.gov.on.ca
Cc: nancy.hiscock@mnr.gov.on.ca
Subject: Re: Braeside Alvar

Daryl:

Thanks for your interest. I am 100% certain about the *C. richardsonii* identification. The *C. formosa* is a little more tentative. The flower spikes are present but the perigynia are not yet formed so I had to go by the rest of the plant. It definitely belongs to Section: Hymenochlaenae and it keys out best to *C. formosa* because it is very pilose on the abaxial surface of the leaves and glabrous on the adaxial surface. I have the Flora of North America (online) verbal descriptions and some nice pictures from U of Wisconsin Freckman Herbaria to go by. Anyway, I'll have to go back in a few weeks and see some with mature perigynia before I can be certain.

s.21

I am interested in your information on the Braeside Alvar. Send me what you can. Unfortunately, Braeside is quite a distance so I don't think I'll ever make more than one or two visits a year. I am keen for another visit this year because I now know how productive it can be for seeing rare plants. Certainly there will be some later sedges which will be new to me. Perhaps you would be interested in going there together sometime. I think I will get [REDACTED] to show me around.

I only have Can Field Naturalist since 1996 so I don't have the references you mention. I found a more recent paper by Catling in Can Field Naturalist (Vol 113, pg 569, 1999) that implies that limited plant surveys were conducted at all eastern Ontario alvars. So there must be substantial lists out there on the Braeside Alvar. I'll check with some contacts in the MacNamara club.

s.21



----- Original Message -----

From: daryl.coulson@mnr.gov.on.ca

s.21

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: nancy.hiscock@mnr.gov.on.ca

Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2004 9:36 AM

Subject: Braeside Alvar

Hi Grant,

Nancy shared your recent Braeside Alvar discoveries with me and they are very exciting!

- C. eburnea* - listed by Moore (uncommon). A characteristic indicator of alvars.
- C. formosa* - not listed by Moore; not in NHIC or MNR Pembroke database. Probably a New record for Renfrew County.
- C. peckii* - listed by Moore for Renfrew County (uncommon)
- C. richardsonii* - not listed by Moore. A characteristic indicator of alvars. Abundant at Clay Bank alvar. Second record for Renfrew County?!

Since this site is probably the largest and best representation of alvar habitat in Renfrew County, and since it is relatively unexplored, there are probably many treasures yet to be discovered here.

I am not aware of a comprehensive working 'plant list' for this site although there are at least half a dozen people that have been making records of observations. An organized plant list for this alvar would be a very useful tool in ongoing and future efforts towards conservation of this site.

I am in the process of putting together a package of aerial photographs, land tenure mapping, and field map with utm grid for this alvar site. This should help greatly with field explorations and documenting observations. I expect to have this done by mid next week at the latest and will gladly share with you.

There are a few really good alvar papers you may want to look at in case you don't have them. They are:

Catling, P.M. and V.R. Brownell. 1995. A review of alvars of the Great Lakes Region: distribution,

floristic composition, biogeography and protection. Canadian-Field Naturalist 109:143-171

Catling, P.M. 1995. The Extent of Confinement of Vascular Plants to Alvars in Southern Ontario. Canadian-Field Naturalist 109:172-181

Brownell, V.R. and J.L. Riley. 2000. The Alvars of Ontario. Significant Alvar Natural Areas in the Ontario Great Lakes Region. Federation of Ontario Naturalists. 269pp.

I have copies of these and if you wish to borrow any of them, please let me know.

Regards,
Daryl

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