

A RECENT COLLECTION OF *BIDENS BECKII* TORR. IN ILLINOIS

BENJAMIN L. DOLBEARE
Illinois State Museum, Springfield

ABSTRACT.—The water marigold (*Bidens beckii* Torr.), last reported in Illinois in 1898, was recently collected in Grays Lake, August 4, 1966.

Published records of the water marigold, *B. beckii* Torr., (*Megalodonta beckii* (Torr.) Greene) Compositae, in Illinois are limited to those in Jones' *Flora of Illinois* (1963): Cook Co., 1878; Lake Co., 1898, collected by E. J. Hill. This aquatic plant is considered extremely rare in this area and its recent occurrence or reappearance in heavily populated northeastern Illinois is discussed here.

During August, 1966, the author collected aquatic plants in Grays Lake, Lake County, under auspices of the Illinois State Museum and the Illinois Department of Conservation. *Bidens beckii* was growing approximately three and one-half feet from a bordering stone wall in water two to three feet deep. Collection data are as follows: Grays Lake, Lake Co., Village of Grayslake, August 4, 1966, *B. L. Dolbeare 1018-1021* and Grays Lake, Lake Co., Grayslake, August 11, 1966, *B. L. Dolbeare 1022-1025*. All specimens are in the Illinois State Museum herbarium.

Plants growing in association with *B. beckii* were *Potamogeton pectinatus* L., *Elodea canadensis* Michx., *Ranunculus longirostris* Godr., *Myriophyllum spicatum* L., and *Najas guadalupensis* (Spreng.) Magnus; and the relatively rare *Potamogeton friesii* Rupr., *P. robinsonii* Oakes, *P. zosteriformis* Fern., and *Najas marina* L. (Winterringer and Lopinot, 1966). Other plants found in the lake, but not in immediate associa-

tion, were *Nuphar variegatum* Engelm., *Nymphaea tuberosa* Paine, *Pontederia cordata* L., *Potamogeton illinoensis* Morong, and *P. richardsonii* (Benn.) Rydb. The locality lies in the morainal portion of Vestal's (1930) Lake County Grand Prairie biotic division. Grays Lake has a maximum depth of nineteen feet, a shoreline of one and nine-tenths miles and a surface area of sixty-five acres (*Illinois Fishing Guide*, 1964).

Since this aquatic *Bidens*, in vegetative condition, resembles certain other aquatic plants when not in the flowering stage, i.e., *Myriophyllum* sp. and *Ranunculus* sp., it is perhaps overlooked by most collectors. The emergent yellow flower and lanceolate leaves and the finely dissected submersed leaves are distinctive (Winterringer and Lopinot, 1966). Further collecting in lakes and ponds in this and adjacent areas may reveal other populations.

LITERATURE CITED

- ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION. 1964. Illinois fishing guide. Revised ed. 44 pp.
- JONES, G. N. 1963. *Flora of Illinois*, 3rd ed. The University of Notre Dame Press, Notre Dame, Indiana. 401 pp.
- VESTAL, A. G. 1931. A preliminary vegetation map of Illinois. *Trans. Ill. Acad. Sci.* 23:204-217.
- WINTERRINGER, G. S., and A. C. LOPINOT. 1966. Aquatic plants of Illinois. Illinois State Museum and Illinois Department of Conservation, Springfield, Illinois. 142 pp.

Manuscript received January 20, 1967.