



# Solidago

## Newsletter of the Finger Lakes Native Plant Society

Founded in 1997.  
Logo art of Tall Goldenrod,  
*Solidago altissima*,  
by Nat Cleavitt, 2006.

Volume 25, No. 3



October 2024

### WALK REPORT

## Asters & Goldenrods at North Park Preserve – 19 September 2024

by Rosemarie Parker  
photos by the author

**ROBERT WESLEY** led a walk to learn about asters and goldenrods found in our area. We certainly did not see all possible species, because any one site does not encompass all the habitats for these Asteraceae, but the Roy H. Park Preserve in Dryden has many of the most common species. Here is what we found, *minus a few scarce or rare species that need protection*. Comments are random points I noted in passing.

See the plant list on page 2.

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**Robert Wesley** explaining *Solidago* identification to the group (*above left and below*).

And ***Solidago altissima*** at Roy H. Park Preserve (*bottom left*).



## Plant List for the Roy H. Park Preserve in Dryden, N.Y., 19 September 2024

Species	Common name	Comment
<b>Asters</b>		
<i>Doellingeria umbellata</i>	flat-topped white aster	Moist areas
<i>Eurybia divaricata</i>	white wood aster	Heart shaped leaves, dark stem
<i>Symphotrichum lanceolatum</i>	lance-leaved aster, tall white aster	Ubiquitous
<i>Symphotrichum lateriflorum</i>	calico aster	Horizontal branching & stem hairs in lines; small flowers
<i>Symphotrichum novae-angliae</i>	New England aster	Fragrant, common
<i>Symphotrichum pilosum</i> var <i>pringlii</i>	Pringle's aster	Very tiny leaves, hairless
<i>Symphotrichum prenanthoides</i>	zig-zag aster, bushy aster, crooked-stemmed aster	Common, distinctive leaf shape: untoothed @ clasping base but toothed in swelling & tip
<i>Symphotrichum puniceum</i>	swamp aster	Large flowers, white hairy, broadly clasping leaf base
<i>Symphotrichum urophyllum</i>	arrow leaved aster	Strongly ascending branching
<b>Goldenrods</b>		
<i>Euthamia graminifolia</i>	narrow-leaved goldenrod	Very distinctive corymb & leaves
<i>Solidago altissima</i>	tall goldenrod	3-veined, most common
<i>Solidago bicolor</i>	silverrod	Not much seen
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada goldenrod	Less common, 3 veined
<i>Solidago gigantea</i>	early goldenrod (but not the 1 <sup>st</sup> )	3 veined, Wetland, smooth
<i>Solidago juncea</i>	early goldenrod (1 <sup>st</sup> )	Large associated basal leaves & axillary leaf clusters
<i>Solidago nemoralis</i>	old field goldenrod	Shorter
<i>Solidago rugosa</i>	rough goldenrod	Depressed veins look "wrinkled"; few found in forest shade!
<b>Other plants seen</b>		
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	black alder	European species, invasive
<i>Chelone glabra</i>	white turtlehead	Wet areas
<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	grey dogwood	
<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	Russian olive	Non-native invasive
<i>Epifagus virginiana</i>	beechdrops	Under <i>Fagus grandifolia</i>
<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>	boneset	Wet area
<i>Gentianella quinquefolia</i>	stiff gentian	
<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	winterberry	Very small, mowed?
<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>	sensitive fern	Near pond
<i>Picris hieracioides</i>	oxtongue	Non-native, very weedy
<i>Rosa multiflora</i>	multiflora rose	Non-native invasive, mowed or cut
<i>Rubus allegheniensis</i>	common blackberry	
<i>Rubus flagellaris</i>	Dewberry	Tripping hazard
<i>Rubus hispida</i>	evergreen dewberry	Tripping hazard
<i>Salix bebbiana</i>	Bebb's willow	
<i>Salix discolor</i>	pussy willow	Very light underside
<i>Spiranthes arcisepala</i>	Appalachian ladies' tresses	Few, in lower foliage area
<i>Thelypteris noveboracensis</i>	New York fern (in State Forest)	Very strong narrowing at base, runner not clumper
<i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i>	lowbush blueberry	

White *Symphotrichum* have either **yellow centers** that turn to orange-brown with fertilization/aging, or **white centers** that change to reddish-purple.

A distinguishing feature to note for ID.



## THE FINGER LAKES NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY STEERING COMMITTEE

**Freyda Black:** Facebook, Publicity  
**Audrey Bowe:** Plant Sale [REDACTED]  
**Krissy Boys:** At Large  
**Whitney Carleton:** Outings  
**Patricia A. Curran:** USPS Mailings  
**Adriana Del Grosso:** Publicity  
**Robert Dirig:** Newsletter Editor\*  
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**Anna M. Stalter:** Membership & Mailings  
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**Robert Wesley:** President



### ADDITIONAL NEWSLETTER STAFF

**Rosemarie Parker:** Webmaster, Listserv  
Coordinator, & Assistant Newsletter Editor

[REDACTED]  
**David Werier:** Newsletter Editor Emeritus



## Please Contribute to *Solidago*

WE WELCOME CONTRIBUTIONS THAT FEATURE WILD PLANTS OF THE FINGER LAKES REGION OF NEW YORK AND NEARBY. We include cryptogams (bryophytes, lichens, fungi, and algae) as “flora,” and recognize that green plants provide habitats and substrates for these and many animals, especially insects. We are interested in zoological associations as long as plants are an integral part of the story.

We can use a wide spectrum of material in a variety of writing styles. Our regular columns include **LOCAL FLORA** (plant lists or details of species from specific sites), **OUTINGS** (reports of FLNPS-sponsored excursions), and **PLANT PROFILES** (on specific local plants). We also occasionally publish **APPRECIATIONS** (memorials to local botanists and naturalists), **REVIEWS** (of books, talks, meetings, workshops, and nurseries), **LETTERS** (commentaries and letters to the editor), **ESSAYS** (on botanical themes), **VERSE** (haiku, limericks, and poems of less formal structure), **ART** (botanical illustrations, plant designs, pencil sketches, decorations), and **PHOTOGRAPHS** (stand-alone images, photo essays, and full-page composite plates, or originals that can be scanned and returned). We also can always use **FILLERS** (very short notes, small images, cartoons) for the last few inches of a column.

## *Solidago* Newsletter of the Finger Lakes Native Plant Society

Volume 25, No. 3

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FLNPS (founded in 1997) is dedicated to the promotion of our native flora. We sponsor talks, walks, and other activities related to conservation of native plants and their habitats. *Solidago* is published as a colorful online version, and a B&W paper version that is mailed. The online format is posted 3 months after publication. Please see [www.flnps.org](http://www.flnps.org) for details of membership, past *Solidago* issues, and updates about our programs.



**Autumn Glory at Beebe Lake's North Shore, Cornell University campus, 15 October 1996. Photo by Robert Dirig.**

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\* Please send *Solidago*  
contributions & correspondence  
to Robert Dirig, Editor, at  
[editorofsolidago@gmail.com](mailto:editorofsolidago@gmail.com)

**Deadline for the December 2024  
issue is November 15<sup>th</sup>!**

## Plant Trivia ♦ by Norm Trigoboff

1. How many leaves does it take to make a pound of finished tea (*Camellia sinensis*)?

2. Which country drinks the most tea per capita? Brazil, India, Britain, Ireland, Wyoming, China, Finland, Columbia, or Vietnam.

3a. While visiting Dublin Ireland, you overhear a phrase that sounds like: tea shock. It refers to: **A.** Ireland's Prime Minister. **B.** a famous diorama of accidental kitchen electrocutions in the National Museum. **C.** the city's fine sewage system. **D.** tea spoiled by the water mold *Phytophthora infestans*. **E.** the city's fine Georgian architecture. **F.** the kind of semiconductor used in most microchips today. **G.** a kind of *Sargassum* found in the Irish Sea. **H.** a red seaweed also known as Irish moss. **I.** a slippery green byproduct of tea factories. **J.** a kind of tea that has leaves still floating in it.

3b. While visiting Cornell Campus, you overhear a phrase that sounds like: sea moss. What might it mean? (Same choices as 3a. Two right answers. Hint: it's not the PM.)

4. Which country drinks the most coffee per capita? (See choices from question 2.)

5. Which country is the second biggest coffee producer in the world? (Use choices from question 2.) Hint: Brazil is number one.

6. Which much praised novel was once banned partly because of phrases like: see you in tea?

7. This photo suggests which native plant common name? Hint: look for wordplay.



8. Name the odd one out: chickweed, white pine, blackberry, red clover, velvet grass, goldenrod, arborvitae.

9. Name a pair of somewhat similar plants that can be told apart by – among other things – their sound. Hint: this has nothing to do with the Irish PM.

10. Name the odd one out: Sugar Hill, Cinnamon Lake, Turkey Hill, Potato Hill, Ravioli Gulf, Beaver Dam, Beaver Flow, Texas Hollow, Cliffside, Frozen Ocean.

See answers on page 5.



## LETTER

Dear Editor of *Solidago*,

I am thinking about starting a native plant business in the Binghamton area, and am looking for a possible partner. I'm wondering if any of your readers would be interested in this?

Thank you,  
**Lisa Letcher**  
607-768-8377

Text preferred. If phoning, please leave a message if I don't answer.



## ★ Note to Readers ★

The FLNPS Steering Committee welcomes suggestions for workshops from members. Please let us know what you would like to learn more about in a workshop setting (reply to [info@flnps.org](mailto:info@flnps.org)).

## Thank You!

**WE ARE GRATEFUL** for the contributions of **writers** Fred Haynes, Lisa Letcher, Rosemarie Parker, Norm Trigoboff, David Werier, & Robert Dirig. Images were shared by **photographers** Fred Haynes (pp. 6 & 8), Rosemarie Parker (pp. 1 & 9-10), Norm Trigoboff (pp. 4 & 11-12), David Werier (p. 5), & Robert Dirig (p. 3).

**Layout & design** by the Editor, **careful proof-reading** by Rosemarie Parker & Norm Trigoboff, and **printing** by Gnomon Copy. Anna Stalter emailed copies, Pat Curran mailed paper copies, & Rosemarie posted to the web.

Please check our website ([www.flnps.org](http://www.flnps.org)) regularly throughout the autumn for announcements and details of walks and other events. Many thanks to our Steering Committee (p. 3) and all of our members for supporting FLNPS and its activities. We wish everyone in our reading audience a delightful autumn, filled with joyous outdoor revels with the colorful fall foliage!

— Robert Dirig

## NAME THAT PLANT CONTEST

The photo from last issue's NAME THAT PLANT CONTEST [*Solidago* 25(2), p. 6] was of the **Broad Beech Fern** (*Phegopteris hexagonoptera*). This is one of the less common ferns of central New York, although it can be found on occasion here in small patches, in rich, moist, forested uplands. As the common name suggests, its leaves are generally broader, as well as broader-to-long, compared to its close relative the **Long Beech Fern** (*Phegopteris connectilis*), although other characters are better at distinguishing the two. Thanks to all who entered the contest and congratulations to contest winners: **BOB DIRIG, SUSANNE LORBEER, and ROSEMARIE PARKER.**

*This issue's mystery plant* (the dominant vascular plant, not the bryophytes) *is shown below.*



Common and/or scientific names are acceptable, and more than one guess is allowed. Hints and suggestions are often provided to contest participants who try. Please submit your answer to

**David Werier** [REDACTED]

The photographs were taken on August 3, 2024 in Essex County, N.Y., by David Werier.



## Plant Trivia Answers

by Norm Trigoboff

1. 2000.
2. Ireland.
- 3a. **A.** The Gaelic title for the PM of Ireland is Taoiseach, which sounds to us like tea shock. (*P. infestans* caused the Irish Potato Famine of 1845-1852.)
- 3b. **F. & H.** CMOS, pronounced sea moss by the cognoscente, stands for complementary metal oxide semiconductor. *Chondrus crispus*, or Irish Sea Moss, is edible and widely harvested for carrageenan, a common food thickener, AKA E407 in the EU.
4. Finland. The next top finishers, roughly in order, are Norway, Iceland, Denmark, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, Belgium, Luxembourg and Canada. See: <https://worldpopulationreview.com/country-rankings/coffee-consumption-by-country>
5. Vietnam. Trivia question without an answer: Did the wars there have to do with coffee?
6. For years, *Ulysses* by the great Irish writer James Joyce was banned for obscenity in Ireland, England, the U.S. and Canada. Though it now tops most lists of the best books of all time, it was burned by the more militant censors of all four countries. Whiskey Tango Foxtrot?
7. Cinquefoil.
8. Except for velvet grass, the leaves (and in some cases other parts) of these plants are popular in teas. Trivia: goldenrod, a decongestant, was a big part of Liberty Tea, which the colonists drank after the Boston Tea Party. Though goldenrod tea helps expel mucous and tyrannical imperialist oppressors, some American goldenrod species, like some American corporate interests, are now unwanted guests in much of the world.
9. Milkweed leaves make as much sound as pouring a glass of milk. Dogbane leaves squeak when rubbed together, or at least some sources say so. I've had little if any luck with this in the field. This question would've worked so much better if milkweed gurgled and dogbane barked.
10. These are New York State Forests within 30 miles of Ithaca, except Ravioli Gulf, which I cooked up. (C'mon, Beaver Flow? Seriously?)



## WALK REPORT

## A Late Spring Visit to Three Falls Woods ♦ by Fred Haynes

On June 30<sup>th</sup> 2024, about a dozen FLNPS members met **David Dubois** (Land Steward at Baltimore Woods Nature Center in Onondaga County, N.Y.) for a botanical walk through **Three Falls Woods Preserve** in Manlius, N.Y. David led us along multiple trails through the 175-acre preserve that is owned and managed by the Central New York Land Trust, Inc.



David shows us **Prickly Ash** (*Zanthoxylum americanum*), the preferred larval foodplant for Giant Swallowtail butterflies (*Papilio cresphontes*). We did not spot any eggs or caterpillars.



The group checks state-endangered (S1S2) **Carey's Sedge**, found in less than 20 locations statewide. *Carex careyana* likes calcareous bedrock, deep rich calcareous soil, and mesic hardwood forests.

Three Falls Woods lies at the eastern end of the seven-mile-long Onondaga Escarpment Nature Corridor. Better well known **Clark Reservation State Park** lies at the western end. The two parks/preserves bookend the active **Jamesville Quarry**, which has provided limestone for various needs for nearly 200 years. Although the quarrying has destroyed much of the natural escarpment, the land at either end is now protected.

A significant portion of Three Falls Woods is recognized as **old growth forest**, with hardwood trees older than 150 years in the karsted topography atop the limestone escarpment. These include maples, dogwood, hop hornbeam (ironwood), hemlock, chinquapin and red oaks, hackberry, and more.



We observed several ferns thriving in the calcareous soils and shade of the old growth forest (from left to right):



**Rattlesnake Fern** (*Botrypus virginianus*), **Bulblet Bladder Fern** (*Cystopteris bulbifera*), **Maidenhair Spleenwort** (*Asplenium trichomanes*), and **Marginal Wood Fern** (*Dryopteris marginalis*). Photos by Fred Haynes

Plants seen at Three Falls Woods, June 30<sup>th</sup> & July 7<sup>th</sup> 2024

Species	Common Name	Notes
<i>Actaea pachypoda</i>	doll's eyes/white baneberry	in fruit
<i>Actaea rubra</i>	red baneberry	in fruit
<i>Adiantum pedatum</i>	maidenhair fern	
<i>Agrimonia</i> sp.	agrimony	
<i>Anemone virginiana</i>	thimble weed	in bloom
<i>Ariseama triphyllum</i>	Jack-in-the-pulpit	not many
<i>Asarum canadense</i>	wild ginger	
<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	swamp milkweed	
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	butterfly weed	in bloom
<i>Asplenium platyneuron</i>	ebony spleenwort	
<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	maidenhair spleenwort	
<i>Botrypus virginianus</i>	rattlesnake fern	
<i>Juniperus communis</i>	common juniper	
<i>Carex careyana</i>	Carey's sedge	New York S1S2 endangered species
<i>Carex pedunculata</i>	long-stalked sedge	
<i>Carex platyphylla</i>	broad leaf sedge	
<i>Carex sylvatica</i>	European woodland sedge	State Tier 2 invasive
<i>Caulophyllum giganteum</i>	giant blue cohosh	could be <i>C. thalictoides</i>
<i>Celtus occidentalis</i>	hackberry	
<i>Centaurea jacea/nigra</i>	knapweed	State Tier 4 invasive
<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>	wild basil	
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	pagoda dogwood	
<i>Cystopteris bulbifera</i>	bulbet-bladder fern	
<i>Dianthus armeria</i>	Deptford pink	
<i>Drepanocladus aduncus</i>	hook-moss	in small karsted sink hole
<i>Dryopteris intermedia</i>	intermediate wood fern	
<i>Dryopteris marginalis</i>	marginal wood fern	
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	purple coneflower	near the parking lot
<i>Elymus hystrix</i>	bottlebrush grass	In fruit
<i>Epipactis helleborine</i>	poor man's lady slipper	very light color flower
<i>Epithemia</i> sp.	algae containing diatom	on <i>D. aduncus</i>
<i>Fontinalis sullivantii</i>	Sullivant's Water Moss	with <i>D. aduncus</i>
<i>Fragaria vesca?</i>	strawberry	not certain about species
<i>Hydrophyllum virginianum</i>	Virginia waterleaf	
<i>Iris</i> sp.	garden iris	purple (garden escape?)
<i>Lapsana communis</i>	nipplewort	
<i>Ludwigia laustris</i>	marsh purslane	
<i>Maianthemum racemosa</i>	Solomon's plume	In fruit
<i>Melilotis alba</i>	sweet white clover	
<i>Menispermum canadense</i>	Canada moonseed	did not see blooms/fruit
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	American hop-hornbeam	also known as ironwood
<i>Patis racemosa</i>	black-fruited mountain ricegrass	
<i>Phlox divaricata</i>	blue wood phlox	
<i>Phryma leptostachya</i>	lopseed	
<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i>	mayapple	scarce

Continued on next page

<b>Polymnia canadensis</b>	leafcup	
<b>Polypodium virginianum</b>	common rock polypody	
<b>Polystichum acrostichoides</b>	Christmas fern	
<b>Potentilla recta</b>	Rough-fruited cinquefoil	near the parking lot
<b>Prunus serotina</b>	black cherry	
<b>Quercus macrocarpa</b>	bur oak	likely hybrid (*see photo below)
<b>Quercus muehlenbergii</b>	chinkapin Oak	dominant oak in places
<b>Quercus rubra</b>	red oak	
<b>Ranunculus abortivus</b>	kidney leaf buttercup	
<b>Ranunculus aquatilis</b>	White water buttercup	In flower in vernal pool
<b>Sanicula canadensis</b>	sanicle	in fruit
<b>Solidago caesia</b>	wreath goldenrod	
<b>Solidago flexicaulis</b>	zig-zag goldenrod	
<b>Staphylea trifolia</b>	American bladdernut	
<b>Symphotrichum cordifolium</b>	heart-leaved aster	
<b>Thalictrum dioicum</b>	early meadow rue	
<b>Thuja occidentalis</b>	eastern arborvitae/white cedar	A small grove!
<b>Tilia americana</b>	American basswood	
<b>Triosteum aurantiacum</b>	Orange-fruited horse gentian	
<b>Trillium grandiflorum</b>	white trillium	based on white ovary
<b>Ulmus rubra</b>	slippery elm	
<b>Viburnum acerifolium</b>	maple leaved viburnum	
<b>Viola spp.</b>	violet	stemless, very sharp point
<b>Zanthoxylum americanum</b>	prickly ash	host for Giant Swallowtail

We did not keep a complete plant list while in the field. This list was compiled with input from Fred Haynes, David DuBois, Kathy McGrath, and Norm Trigoboff, after the June 30<sup>th</sup> trip. Rosemarie Parker visited Three Falls Woods on July 7<sup>th</sup> 2024 and contributed additional observed species.

Please see Rosemarie's lead article in the last issue of Solidago (Vol. 25, No. 2, pp. 1-3) for more photos and information.



◀ **Chinquapin Oak**  
(*Quercus muehlenbergii*)

\*and a possible hybrid between **Bur Oak** (*Quercus macrocarpa*) ▶ & another oak species, perhaps **Chinquapin Oak**

at Three Falls Woods on June 30<sup>th</sup> 2024.

Photos by Fred Haynes





WALK REPORT



*Emma with a coral fungus*



*A "Little Brown Mushroom" (LBM)*

*A cup fungus*

# Spring Mushroom Walk

by Rosemarie Parker, *photos by the author*

CORNELL NATURAL AREAS STEWARD **Emma Gutierrez** took FLNPS members and friends on a fun fungi walk last May at **Ringwood Preserve**. The best time for a fungus walk is about 3 days after a rain, but rain had been scarce in the preceding days. Thus, Emma gave us a tutorial on mushroom types, we investigated the smaller fungi that hang around even in dry periods, and we learned recipes from edible mushroom aficionado and assistant walk leader, **Zack Despreaux**.

Ringwood is lovely that time of year, with blooming azaleas and wetland species. Although we did not see any spectacular or colorful mushrooms, we enjoyed finding many different fungi on logs, trees, rocks, and earth.





*Rhododendron perichymenoides along the roadside*

*Ringwood hosts a variety of amphibians. Two were "out and about":  
An American Toad*



*Emma and Zack discussing mushrooms on logs.*



*And a frog*

## FINGER LAKES NATURAL HISTORY

*The Asian Freshwater Bryozoan — New to the Finger Lakes Region*

by Norm Trigoboff

On September 8, 2024, at the New York Flora Association Field Trip to Owasco Flats, when we were about a quarter mile south of Owasco Lake, someone pulled a pondweed from the Inlet. One leaf blade bore a split-pea size yellow glob. I checked with a 10× hand lens. With the glob was a **statoblast** (Fig. 1), a minute seed-like reproductive structure of a bryozoan. Our region has at least two common bryozoans: the big, roundish, clear jelly-like *Pectinatella magnifica* (Fig. 5), which is what many people picture when they hear the word bryozoan, and the small brown encrusting *Plumatella repens*, perhaps the most common one in the U.S. This yellow one was new to me.

A look with a microscope showed that the statoblast was from the **Asian Freshwater Bryozoan, *Lophopodella carteri* (Hyatt 1865)**. Its unique statoblast bears spines at each end with curved hooks that jut from each spine (Fig. 2). This species is known from the Great Lakes and scattered lakes and ponds in the Northeast. It disperses readily, likes basic water, and is more common in late summer. It likely came to the Northeast in the early 1930's. Few people look for it, so it's likely at far more sites than the books say.

You may confuse **bryozoans** with **bryophytes**. To clarify: bryophytes include mosses and plants related to moss. Bryozoans are animals that look like moss. All the two have in common is that they are tiny forms of life with the prefix bryo-. Bryozoan, which means **moss animal**, is the common name for a member of the invertebrate phylum **Ectoprocta**. This has 8,000+ marine species and about 100 freshwater ones. Each individual bryozoan contains a bunch of microscopic zooids, each with a fan of cilia-covered tentacles that filter particles from the water (Figs. 3 & 4). *Lophopodella* eats mostly protozoans and rotifers. Though minute, the numbers of bryozoans may be great and their effects may add up. A study of one bryozoan species suggested that it drops twice the weight of fecal pellets in a lake than fish or waterfowl do.

The day after the Owasco trip, *Lophopodella* showed up close to home on duckweed (*Lemna minor*) at Stewart Park and nearby Six Mile Creek. A few days later, I found it on eelgrass (*Vallisneria americana*), pondweed (*Potamogeton* sp.), and the undersides of water lily (*Nymphaea* sp.) leaves in the Cayuga Lake Inlet by the Ithaca Farmers Market.

A few days later at the boat docks of the Allen H. Treman State Marine Park, I pulled water lily and pondweed leaves from the turbid water and checked them without luck. A boat owner told me he had brought his boat up from New Jersey a day ago. He had hosed down the hull and didn't think I would find a thing. Still, I should've looked. A *Lophopodella* statoblast (Fig. 1) is black and about a millimeter long. In more familiar terms: to the naked eye, it looks much like a small deer tick. Reproductive parts of other animals and plants may also be minute. When we ask boaters to help stop the spread of invasive species, do we mean for them to do something like a tick check for a boat? (Okay, your front is good. Turn around. Let me see your poop deck.) My guess is that boats are seldom if ever cleaned of every last seed or statoblast. Some old papers speculate that aquatic species spread on waterfowl feathers and in fish stomachs. Such concerns now seem superfluous.

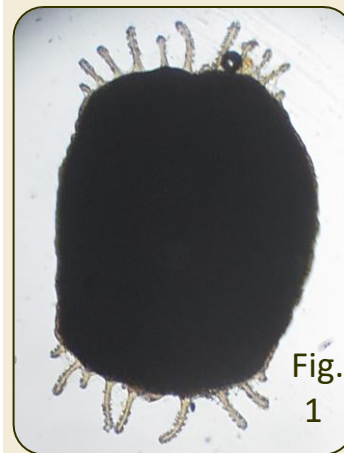


Fig. 1

statoblast (x40)



Fig. 2

hooks on statoblast spines (x400)

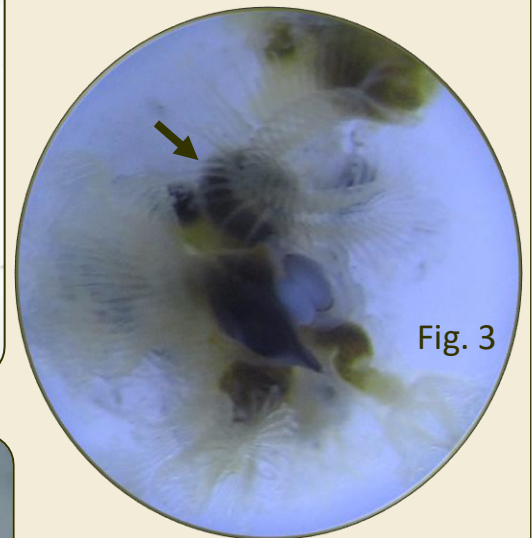
*Lophopodella carteri*

Fig. 3

U-shaped lophophore (arrow)

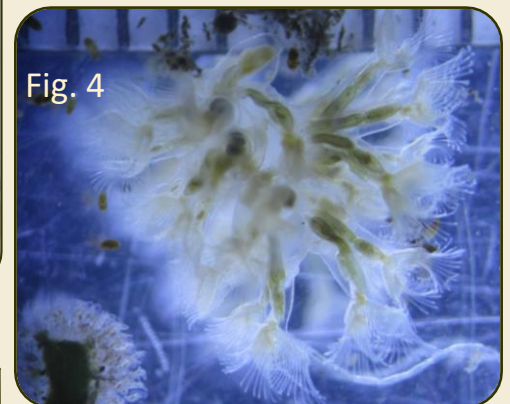


Fig. 4

*Lophopodella* zooids with tentacles extended. At the lower left is a clump of *Sinantherina*, a colonial rotifer. The scale is in mm (top).

I got the okay to check two boats at the marina and checked a nearby floating dock. If there was any *Lophopodella* at the marina, I missed it. One decaying mass of *Pectinatella magnifica* about a meter long floated alone in the water, but statoblasts, sometimes stuck to small clear goeey bits of that species, were everywhere. *Plumatella repens* showed up on eelgrass and as a fouling organism on the boat hulls, as did *Fredericella indica*, a bryozoan said to be common, but which was new to me. Fred was dense and abundant on the floating docks. (Excuse me for jumping straight to a more-or-less acceptable common name. It's time we dropped the grand American tradition of first choosing a racially offensive common name and then fixing it.) Other minute filter feeders, such as colorless and green flavors of *Stentor polymorphus*, an attached, trumpet-shaped ciliate that sometimes harbors green algae, filled gaps among the bryozoans.

*Lophopodella* usually has a green striped stomach. The stomach cells look like they hold round green algae (or perhaps bluegreens) as endosymbionts. You'd think someone would have written about this. If I had a budget, I'd look into it.

*Lophopodella* is pretty and easy to culture, but it has very few behaviors and it's hard — I imagine — to teach it tricks. The ones that I kept ate, pooped, withdrew tentacles when disturbed, and released caught particles or animals that were too big to eat. It can crawl too, though a bit too slowly to be interesting, or even noticed.

Do we want Asian freshwater bryozoans here? Bryozoans are harmless to those who swim in or drink lake water. If anything, they make the water clearer. (Some encrusting bryozoans cause trouble when they clog fishing nets, or water pipes and screens used for irrigation, fountains, water treatment, or industrial cooling.) The word Asian suggests that they might belong somewhere else. On the other hand, though they've been here almost a hundred years, the USGS webpage says little about whether they are harmful, harmless, or helpful, just this brief, definitive statement: "The ecological impact of *L. carteri* has not yet been thoroughly investigated." By the way, our big, sometimes scary *Pectinatella magnifica* (Fig. 5), which is native to the Northeast, has spread to the West, Europe, and Asia. As with *L. carteri*, its impacts have yet to be explored.

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Fig. 5

*Pectinatella magnifica* at Teeter Pond, Finger Lakes National Forest, August 31, 2021.

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