

LYCOPODIACEAE – CLUBMOSS FAMILY

Plant: small, perennial, evergreen, creeping or upright in growth

Stem: mostly same as leaves; often “running” along the ground

Root:

Leaves: simple, lacking stems, similar in size, often narrow and pointed; typically arranged in whorls of mostly 4-16 leaves, or opposite and overlapping; some have a bristle hair at the tip

Flowers: no flowers

Fruit: homosporous (one type of spore, neither male or female); mostly from strobili (cones) extended above the leaves; a few have spore cases at bases of leaves; the gametophyte phase is very small (mostly microscopic) and usually below ground

Other: most species are commonly known as ground or running pines or cedars – lots of confusion; Division Lycopodiophyta, Lycopod Group

Genera: two genera – Lycopodium and Phylloglossum (only one species, restricted to New Zealand, Tasmania and Australia)

LYCOPODIACEAE – CLUBMOSS FAMILY

Fir Clubmoss [Northern Fir-Moss]; *Huperzia selago* (L.) Bernh.
ex Schrank & Mart.

Ground Cedar [Ground Pine]; *Lycopodium complanatum* L.

Tree Ground Pine; *Lycopodium dendroideum* Michx. (?)

Fir Clubmoss

[Northern Fir-Moss]

Huperzia selago (L.) Bernh.
ex Schrank & Mart.

Lycopodiaceae (Clubmoss Family)
Oak Openings Metropark, Lucas
County, Ohio

Notes: strobili are present in the leaf axils;
leaves ascending to spreading, green to
yellowish green (in sun), not ranked,
mostly entire, sharp pointed, widest at
base of stem; plant erect, up 10-15 cm;
spring (listed for Ohio in Flora of North
America, Vol. 2)

[V Max Brown, 2009]



Ground Cedar [Ground Pine]

Lycopodium complanatum L.
Lycopodiaceae (Clubmoss Family)
Oak Openings Metropark, Lucas
County, Ohio



Notes: 1-4 strobili on a candelabrum like growth; leaves small, pointed, 4-ranked and partially grown together; horizontal stems mostly above or slightly below surface; varieties present

[V Max Brown, 2006]



bottom



Tree Ground Pine

Lycopodium dendroideum Michx.
Lycopodiaceae (Clubmoss Family)
Oak Openings Metropark, Lucas
County, Ohio

Notes: yellow strobilus on tip of stems; leaves
flattened, lance-shaped; horizontal stem below
ground; looks like a small pine tree; varieties present

[V Max Brown, 2006]

