

## NOTES ON THE OCCURRENCE OF *ERIGERON SUMATRENSIS* (ASTERACEAE) IN GEORGIA

GUY L. NESOM  
2925 Hartwood Drive  
Fort Worth, Texas 76109  
guynesom@sbcglobal.net

### ABSTRACT

A survey for *Erigeron sumatrensis* in central Georgia indicates that it is densely distributed on the coastal plain there, suggesting that its occurrence may be similar from South Carolina to Louisiana. Vouchers and a distribution map for the Georgia records are provided.

A recent study (Nesom 2018) documented the occurrence of *Erigeron sumatrensis* Retz. across the southeastern USA (Fig. 1). Current herbarium collections suggest that it is common in coastal counties but sporadic in more inland areas. The present report indicates that the species probably is more densely distributed through the coastal plain from South Carolina to Louisiana.

On 9-10 September, 2018, I surveyed a broad loop in central Georgia and added 14 county records to the distribution of *Erigeron sumatrensis*. Figure 2 shows the more geographically saturated distribution the species has attained there.

The tall columnar habit (characteristically 4-6 feet tall) of *Erigeron sumatrensis* makes it conspicuous (Figs. 3-5). In central Georgia I found it along roadsides and fencerows and at edges of cultivated and fallow fields. It is local in occurrence, usually as only 1 or a few plants (but sometimes up to 10-15 in a cluster), often growing with more abundant and continuously distributed *E. canadensis*. *Erigeron sumatrensis* in September is at the end of its growing season and mostly in fruit, while many plants of *E. canadensis* are in full flower.

**Vouchers for 2018 collections.** **Georgia.** Atkinson Co.: ca. 5 mi NE of Willacoochee on Hwy 135 (5 mi SW of Coffee County line), then 1.5 mi E of Hwy 135 jct on Talmadge-McKinnon Road, ca. 5 plants on roadside beside cotton field, 10 Sep 2018, *Nesom ES8* (GA). Berrien Co.: 1 mi E of Nashville on Hwy 76, at corner of Spells Road turnoff, roadside by mailbox, 1 plant, 10 Sep 2018, *Nesom ES7* (GA). Coffee Co.: along Hwy 135 at jct with Cypress Road, 6 mi SW of jct Hwy 32 in Douglas, 1 mi N of Lanier County line, along fencerow by cotton field, 10 Sep 2018, *Nesom ES 9* (GA). Cook Co.: N of Lenox on Hwy 41, ca. 3 mi S of Tift County line, roadbank alongside peanut field, abundant, mostly senescent, mixed with still-green *Erigeron canadensis*, 9 Sep 2018, *Nesom ES6* (GA). Crisp Co.: between Pitts and Cordele on Hwy 280, 2 mi W of Wilcox County line, roadside by cotton field, very local in occurrence, 10 Sep 2018, *Nesom ES 12* (GA). Dooly Co.: SE of Vienna, Hwy 215 at jct of Pleasant Hill Road, ca. 2.5 mi SE of jct Hwy 257, roadside, abundant at edge of woods, 10 Sep 2018, *Nesom ES13* (GA). Jeff Davis Co.: Hwy 221, 2.5 mi SSW of jct Snipesville Road in Denton, then along Post Road 0.5 mi E of jct Hwy 221, ca. 15 plants on a weedy road bank, 10 Sep 2018, *Nesom ES10* (GA). Lee Co.: Hwy 118, ca. 2 mi SW of jct Hwy 19 on the W side of Smithville, abundant along base of roadbank, S side of road, 9 Sep 2018, *Nesom ES2* (GA). Pulaski Co.: SE of Hawkinsville, Hwy 257, 5 mi SE of jct Hwy 27, beside fallow field, abundant but mixed with more abundant *Erigeron canadensis*, 10 Sep 2018, *Nesom ES 14* (GA). Terrell Co.: Hwy 118 toward Bronwood, 2 mi NE of Dawson town center, roadside by peanut field, N side of road, plants 6 feet tall, 9 Sep 2018, *Nesom ES1* (GA). Tift Co.: N of Chula, 2 mi S of Turner County line on Hwy 41, at jct of Cromer Road, ca. 5 plants in a cluster along roadside, 9 Sep 2018, *Nesom ES5* (GA). Turner Co.: Hwy 32, 4 mi W of jct Hwy 112 on the W side of Ashburn, roadside by woods, 10 plants in a cluster, 9 Sep 2018, *Nesom ES4* (GA). Wilcox Co.: E side of Abbeville along Hwy 280, 0.5 mi E of jct Hwy 129, common on downsloping roadbank on S side of hwy, 10 Sep 2018, *Nesom ES 11* (GA). Worth Co.: Hwy 32, 1 mi W of jct of Hwy 313 at Doles, roadside near edge of woods, 1 plant 5 ft tall, 6 stems from the base, 9 Sep 2018, *Nesom ES3* (GA).

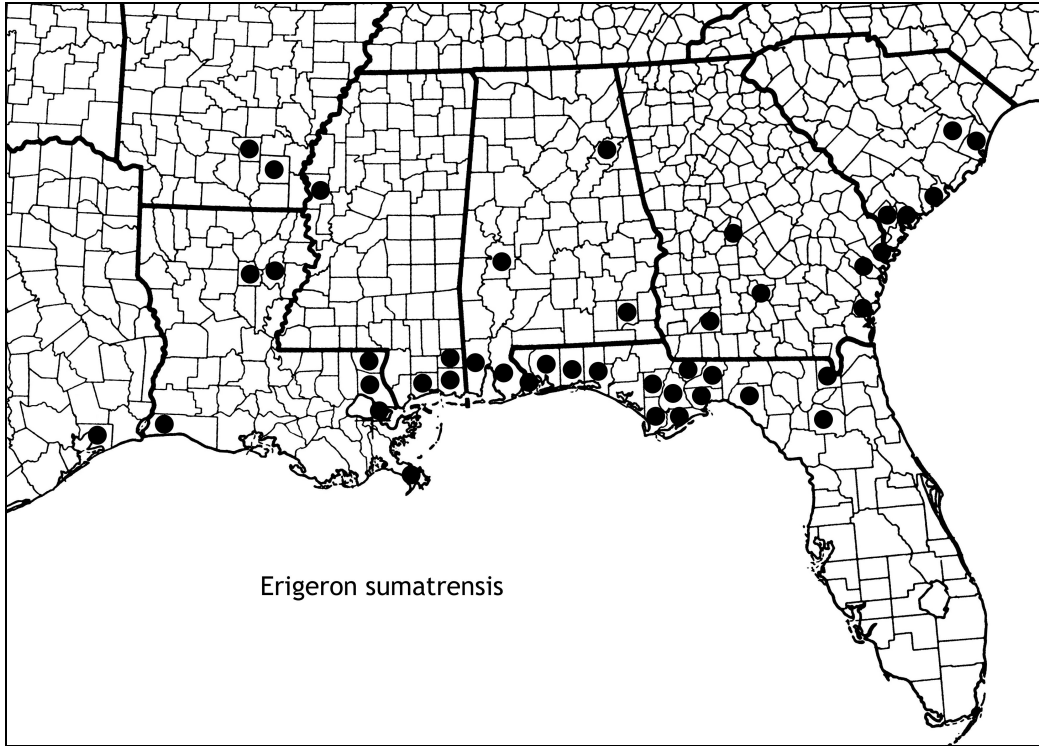


Figure 1. Distribution of *Conyza sumatrensis* in the eastern USA (from Nesom 2018).

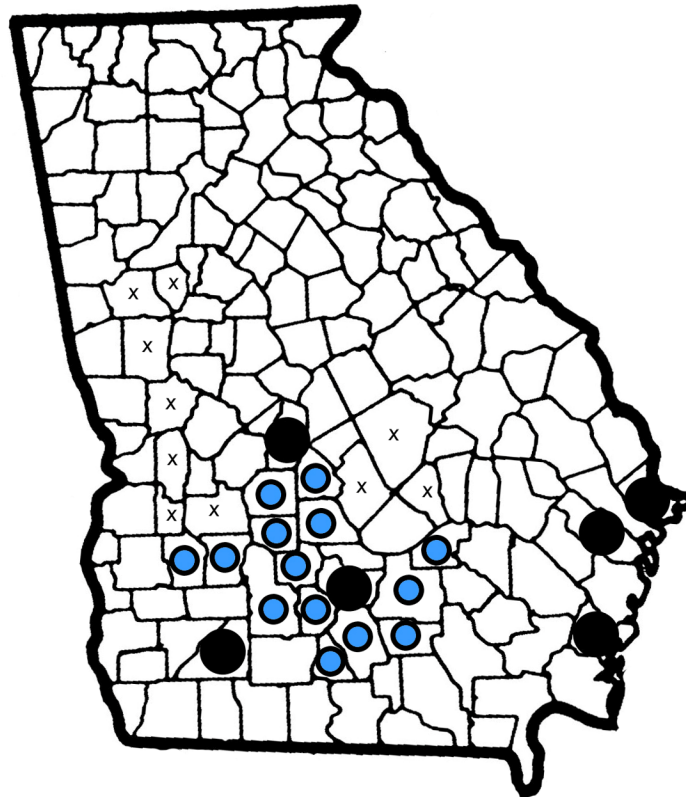


Figure 2. Distribution of *Erigeron sumatrensis* in Georgia. Large black dots show previously reported records (see Fig. 1). Blue circles show records added in the current report from collections in September 2018. Counties searched in 2018 without finding the species are marked with "x."





Figure 3. *Erigeron sumatrensis*, 3 stems from the base of one plant. Worth Co., Georgia.





Figure 4. *Erigeron sumatrensis*. Worth Co., Georgia.





Figure 5. *Erigeron sumatrensis*. Tift Co., Georgia.

#### LITERATURE CITED

Nesom, G.L. 2018. *Erigeron floribundus* and *E. sumatrensis* (Asteraceae) in the USA. *Phytoneuron* 2018-27: 1–19.