

## DISTRIBUTION OF *TIARELLA* (SAXIFRAGACEAE) IN NORTHEASTERN TENNESSEE

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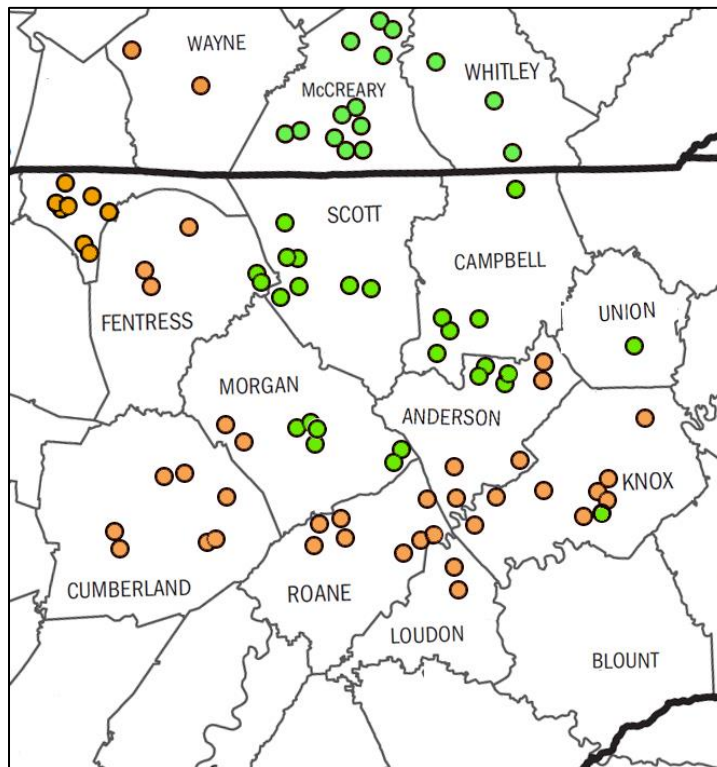
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### ABSTRACT

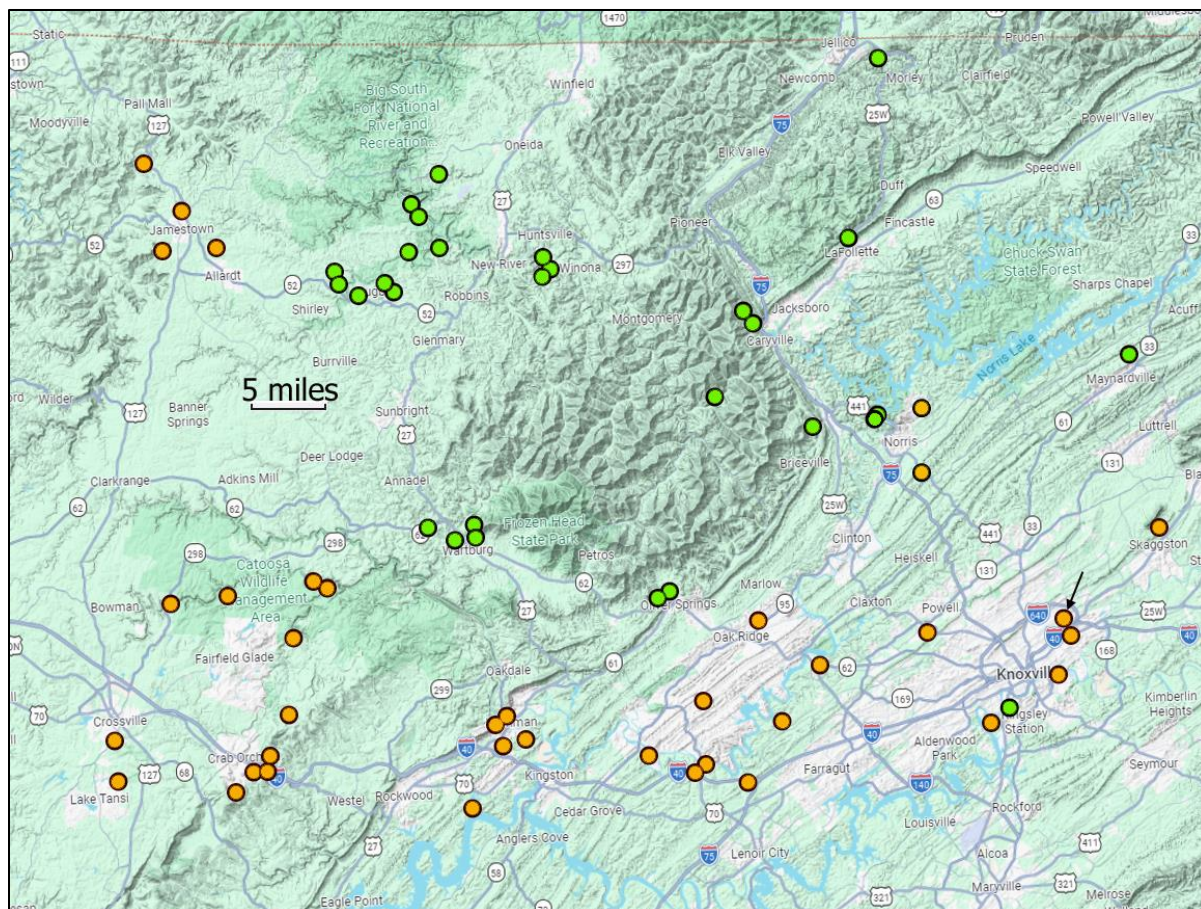
*Tiarella stolonifera* and *T. wherryi* are allopatric in northeastern Tennessee where their ranges approach each other, the former restricted to the Cumberland Mountains in Anderson, Campbell, Fentress, Morgan, and Scott counties.

In an earlier publication (Nesom 2021), *Tiarella stolonifera* and *T. wherryi* were mapped as sympatric in an area of northeastern Tennessee — showing counties where collections of stoloniferous plants occur with those without stolons. In some cases, it was not clear whether the "non-stoloniferous" ones lacked stolons or simply were collected without basal parts (as has often been the case). On 28–30 April 2026, I made observations and collections of *Tiarella* in Anderson, Campbell, Cumberland, Fentress, Morgan, Roane, and Scott counties — areas of potential sympatry — to better understand the biology and geography.

*Tiarella stolonifera* and *T. wherryi* are almost perfectly allopatric (Maps 1, 2) in northeastern Tennessee. In Anderson, Campbell, Fentress, Morgan, and Scott counties, *T. stolonifera* is restricted to the Cumberland Mountains — *T. wherryi* also occurs in Anderson, Fentress, and Morgan counties but outside of the Cumberland Mountains.



Map 1. Distribution of *Tiarella stolonifera* and *T. wherryi* in northeastern Tennessee, in the area of potential sympatry. Both species occur in some counties but are allopatric at large scale.



Map 2. Distribution of *Tiarella stolonifera* and *T. wherryi* in northeastern Tennessee, in the area of potential sympatry. *Tiarella stolonifera* at its southwesternmost distribution is restricted to the Cumberland Mountains. Arrow points to the locality for *Odgen 55, Tiarella nautila* (see text).

Within what is now the city of Knoxville, stoloniferous plants have been collected several times at the University of Tennessee "farm" or "woodlot" (e.g., *Ruth 341*–GH, in 1901; *Sargent s.n.*–TENN, in 1949; *Kessler s.n.*–NCU, in 1951). Surrounding collections from Knox County are *T. wherryi*, although *Odgen 55* (NCSC) from "near Buffat Road" in Knoxville is unusual — a leaf of varying size is present on each inflorescence stem, and this collection is reasonably identified as *T. nautila*, although Monroe County was the northernmost locality mapped for that species in 2021.

Map points are from herbarium collections seen and identified via SERNEC plus two collections made in April 2026 (NCU + duplicates) from localities not represented by previous collections.

#### LITERATURE CITED

Nesom, G.L. 2021. Taxonomy of *Tiarella* (Saxifragaceae) in the eastern USA. *Phytoneuron* 2021-31: 1–61.