Ant dispersed plants observed in Connecticut

This list includes my anectodal observations of myrmecochorous plants in Connecticut. To claim that a plant is truly ‘ant dispersed’ the authority must present direct experimental evidence of ants effectively dispsering the seeds (a question mark indicates that this has not been done). A myrmecochorous plant must have had a study where seeds were presented to ants and observed the ant’s capability to manipulate and move the diaspores in the field. Voucher plant specimens are currently held in the Herbarium at Central Connecticut State University. This is a working list. I assume that there are significantly more native, exotic and conservation-concern ant dispersed plants that I have not personally observed.

As of May 11, 2009

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| Myrmecochore | Common Name | Authority |
| Erythronium americanum | Trout lily | Ruhren and Dudash, 1996 |
| Viola sororia | Common blue violet, Garden violet | Culver and Beattie, 1978 (Referred to as *V. papilionacea*) |
| Trillium erectum | Purple trillium | Gunther and Lanza, 1989 |
| Trillium undulatum | Painted trillium | Gunther and Lanza, 1989 |
| Asarum canadense | Canadian wildginger | Smith *et al,* 1989 |
| Anenome Quinquefolia | Wood anenome | Beattie and Culver, 1981 |
| Claytonia virginica | Spring Beauty | Handel, 1978 |
| Dicentra cucullaria | Duchman’s breeches | Berg, 1969 |
| Sanguinaria Canadensis | Bloodroot | Beattie *et al*, 1979 |
| Uvularia perfoliata | Perfolate Bellwort | Beattie and Culver, 1981 |
| Pulminarium officinale\* | Common Lungwort, Spotted Comfrey | Sernander, 1906? |
| Symphytum officinale\* | Common Comfrey | Peters et al, 2003 |
| Galanthus nivalis\* | Snowdrops | Oberrath & Bohning-Gaese, 2002? |
| Glechoma hederacea\* | Ground Ivy | Oberrath & Bohning-Gaese, 2002? |
| Chelidonium majus\* | Greater Celandine | Peters et al, 2003; Oberrath & Bohning-Gaese, 2002 |

\*Indicates a non-native plant. Field experiments still need to be done to show elaiosomes from these naturalized populations attract local ants.

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