2006. Strahl, M.*, M. Cipollini, R. Ware and P. Tomlinson. Vegetation survey of Martha's Meadow, a calcareous limestone glade habitat. The Annual Meeting of the Association of Southeastern Biologists, Gatlinburg, TN. March 29-April 1, 2006. *Southeastern Biology* 53(2):201.

Abstract: Martha's Meadow is a small area in northwestern Georgia on the Berry College campus dominated by a relatively open canopy and an herbaceous plant layer composed mainly of herbs and grasses. A prior informal survey of the vegetation on the site indicated a calcareous limestone glade or prairie habitat. Calcareous limestone habitats occur throughout the southeastern United States, have dry, calcium-rich soils that select against high woody species cover, and tend to be high in grass and herbaceous plant biodiversity. This project focused on conducting a vegetation survey of Martha's Meadow to determine the species composition and cover values of the vegetation to determine what kind of limestone habitat Martha's Meadow most closely resembles. It was found that the tree stratum of the site was dominated by Eastern red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana),* loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda),* Shumard oak, (*Quercus shumardii*), and hophornbeam (*Ostrya virginiana).* The herbaceous stratum was composed of a wide variety of herbs and grasses, including (*Danthonia spicata),* wingstem (*Verbesina alternifolia)*, Cherokee sedge (*Carex cherokeensis),* and Nepal or Japanese grass (*Microstegium vimineum),* with these dominating by only a small margin. The vegetation survey results suggest that Martha's is a type of subclimax limestone glade community, most likely a cedar barrens or xeric limestone prairie habitat.

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