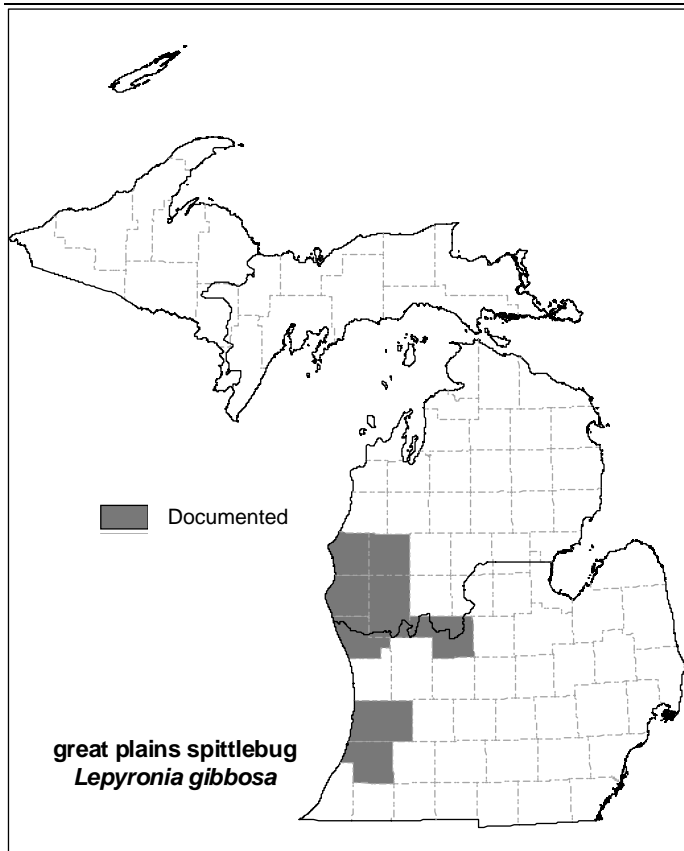


INSECTS



great plains spittlebug (*Lepyronia gibbosa*)

DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE: Occurs at numerous sites across 6 counties in the west central Lower Peninsula and sparsely in the southwest Lower Peninsula. It is locally abundant where found, but its host plants may be in decline in these areas. It is considered very rare in the State and may be critically imperiled. It is listed as threatened in Michigan, and it is a Forest Service sensitive species. This species may be rare across its range.

ASSOCIATED LANDSCAPE FEATURES: prairie; idle/old field; right-of-way; savanna; dry hardwood; dry conifer; forest opening; ephemeral wetland

ASSOCIATED THREATS: climate change; conversion to agriculture lands; altered fire regime; fragmentation; incompatible natural resource mgmt; industrial/residential/recreational development; invasive plants & animals; lack of scientific knowledge; non-consumptive recreation

COMMENTS: Need surveys to assess abundance and distribution; need basic life history information; need to identify threats. Prescribed fire is an important management tool, but care should be taken to ensure that occupied areas are only partially burned. ORV traffic should be redirected around occupied areas.