

FIGHTING FOR SURVIVAL

Pipe Springs Cryptantha



Photo: Dr. James Reveal, Smithsonian

A FRAGILE FLOWER

The Pipe Springs Cryptantha (*Cryptantha semiglabra*) is primarily found in Great Basin desert scrub on red clay soil with gypsum flakes near Fredonia in northern Arizona. While it has been reported from southern Utah, that record is now questioned by experts. Threats to this rare, one-foot-tall flower include off-road vehicle use, livestock grazing and trampling, development, and even garbage dumping. Drought may exacerbate all of these threats.

PROTECTING SAGEBRUSH HABITAT

The Pipe Springs Cryptantha lives in the Sagebrush Sea, one of the most neglected landscapes in the West. Hundreds of species in the Sagebrush Sea are imperiled. Protecting these animals and plants - including the Pipe Springs Cryptantha - can help preserve this sweeping and majestic landscape.

KNOW YOUR CRYPTANTHA

- A Flower By Any Other Name: the common names for *Cryptantha semiglabra* are many. In addition to Pipe Springs Cryptantha, it's been called Pipe Springs Cryptanth, White Forget-Me-Not, Fredonia Catseye, Smooth Catseye, and Smooth Cryptantha.
- Smooth Operator: this plant is distinguished from the most closely related cryptanthus by its smooth upper leaves.
- Wanted Alive: with very few populations of this flower known to exist, scientists recommend searching for additional populations.

SAGEBRUSH SEA STAT

Approximately 20 percent of native flora and fauna in the Sagebrush Sea are considered imperiled.

