

## **Plant Propagation Protocol for** *Lomatium grayi* ESRM 412 – Native Plant Production

	TAXONOMY	
Family Names	Family Names	
Family Scientific Name:	Apiaceae	
Family Common Name:	Carrot family	
Scientific Names		
Genus:	Lomatium	
Species:	grayi	
Species Authority:	J.M. Coult. & Rose	
Variety:	Lomatium grayi (J.M. Coult. & Rose) J.M. Coult. & Rose (5); Lomatium grayi (J.M. Coult. & Rose) J.M. Coult. & Rose var. depauperatum (M.E. Jones) Mathias (5,6,7).	
Sub-species:		
Cultivar:	Common wildland collected seed is available from commercial sources. There are currently no commercial releases of Gray's biscuitroot (3). Commercial growers are producing pooled Source Identified seed representative of Omernik Ecoregion 12 (Snake River Plain) and 80 (Northern Basin and Range).	
Authority for Variety/Sub- species:		
Common Synonym(s) (include full scientific names (e.g., <i>Elymus</i> <i>glaucus</i> Buckley),	Lomatium grayi (J.M. Coult. & Rose) J.M. Coult. & Rose	

including	
including	
variety or subspecies	
information)	
Common	Gray's biscuitroot (1,2); Gray's desert parsley, Milfoil lomatium, Mountain
Name(s):	
	desert parsley, Narrow-leaf lomatium, Pungent desert parsley (3).
Species Code (as	LOGR
per USDA Plants	
database):	
uatabase).	CENEDAL INFORMATION
	GENERAL INFORMATION
Geographical	Maps above for distribution in North America and southwest US (5,6);
range	Gray's biscuitroot occurs in Northwest North America, primarily from the
(distribution	Cascade and Sierra Nevada to the Rocky Mountains in Washington, Idaho,
maps for North	Oregon, Wyoming, Nevada, Utah, Colorado and New Mexico. There are
America and	two populations in British Columbia, Canada where it is considered a
Washington	threatened species (2, 3).
state)	Low ative event is a nonennial bark flowering in conty oneing in the stands of
Ecological distribution	<i>Lomatium grayi</i> is a perennial herb flowering in early spring in the steppe of the intermountain west of North America (4). Widespread E Cascades, dry,
(ecosystems it	open, often rocky places from foothills and lowland to midmontane; central
occurs in, etc):	Washington to northern Idaho, south in eastern Oregon and western Idaho to
	northeast Nevada, irregular to southeast Idaho, Wyoming, and Colorado (8).
Climate and	This species is adapted to well drained, rocky shallow soils at elevations
elevation range	from sea level to 2750 m (0 to 9,000 ft) (COSEWIC, 2008; Welsh et al.,
	2003 in (3)). Gray's biscuitroot is generally found in areas receiving 20 to 50
	cm (8 to 20 in) mean annual precipitation (3).
Local habitat and	Gray's biscuitroot grows on rocky outcrops, shallow pockets of soil in rocks
abundance;	and in open habitat in sagebrush, mountain shrub, pinyon-juniper, ponderosa
may include	pine, and Douglas fir communities (3). Along south-facing slopes along the Snake River Convert (along $= 160m$ ) found associated with A ground states
commonly associated	Snake River Canyon (elev = 160m) found associated with <i>Agropyron</i> <i>spicatum</i> and <i>Opuntia polyacantha</i> . In sub-alpine meadows in the Blue
species	Mountains (elev. 1800 m) as a co-dominant with <i>Lupinus sulphureus</i> and
species	<i>Eriogonum favum</i> var. <i>piperi</i> surrounded by Pseudostuga menzesii (4).
	Gray's biscuitroot has been known to be attacked by the larvae of 2 weevils
	(Apion oedorhychum and Smicronyx sp.) and one moth (Greya subalba)
	(Ellison and Thompson, 1987 in (3)). These insect pests are known to kill
	the seed and reduce seed viability. Herbivory by mammals limits species
	occurrence and spread in Canadian populations (COSEWIC, 2008 in (3)).
Plant strategy	Gray's biscuitroot is grazed by deer, sheep, mice, rats, and rabbits
type /	(COSEWIC, 2008). Ogle and Brazee (2009) rate it as desirable spring and
successional	summer forage for cattle, sheep, horses, elk, deer and antelope. Gray's
stage (stress-	biscuitroot is one of the first species to green up and flower after snowmelt.
tolerator,	This characteristic makes this an important species for early spring
competitor,	pollinators and other insects. Known pollinators include solitary bees and
weedy/colonize	flies (3). This species has been identified as an important plant species in

r, seral, late	sage-grouse habitat because of its early growth habit and the associated
successional)	insects that provide a critical food source for sage-grouse chicks. Gray's
	biscuitroot is a host plant for the rare Indra swallowtail butterfly (Papilio
	<i>indra</i> ) and is one of two plants used as a host by the Anise Swallowtail
	(Papilio zelicaon) (Thompson 1989 in (3).
	The female Indra Swallowtail butterfly lays eggs on <i>Lomatium</i> sp. and the
	essential oils of three varieties of Lomatium grayi; L. grayi. var. grayi, L.
	grayi var. depauperatum and L. grayi. var. (undescribed) have been
	analyzed (9). Among the major components, <i>L. grayi</i> var. <i>grayi</i> shows
	myrcene (8.4%), $\beta$ -phellandrene/limonene (27.2%), $\gamma$ -terpinene (10.4%),
	and senkyunolide (24.4%). L. grayi var. depauperatum shows myrcene
	(8.1%), p-cymene (4.3%), $\beta$ -phellandrene/limonene (20.8%), (Z)- $\beta$ - and (E)-
	$\beta$ -ocimene (23.6%), $\gamma$ -terpinene (4.4%), germacrene D (4.6%),
	senkyunolide (4.7%), and (Z)-ligustilide (6.7%). <i>L. grayi</i> (new varity) shows
	$\beta$ -phellandrene/limonene (17.7%), $\gamma$ -terpinene (16.1%), and senkyunolide
	(44.0%). These observations contrast significantly with the reported
	composition of <i>L. grayi</i> . Only <i>L. grayi</i> var. <i>depauperatum</i> and <i>L. grayi</i> (new
	variety) attract the butterfly.
	<i>Ethnobotanic:</i> The tender young stems and roots of Gray's biscuitroot were
	eaten by the Paiute Indians (Mahar, 1953 in (3)). <i>Medicinal:</i> Though not
	proven in clinical trials, this species may possess antiviral and antibacterial
	properties based on its relationship to fernleaf biscuitroot ( <i>L. dissectum</i> )
DI	(COSEWIC, 2008 in (3)).
Plant	The plants live to approximately 7 years of age (COSEWIC, 2008 in (3)),
characteristics	with growth only occurring in the spring when moisture is available. Gray's
(life form	biscuitroot is a large, perennial, aromatic herb with a branched caudex
(shrub, grass,	arising from a deep taproot. Mature plants can reach up to 60 cm (24 in) tall.
forb),	The leaves are finely divided and parsley like (Thompson, 1984 in (3)).
longevity, key	Leaves very finely dissected, generally with several hundred or > 1000 very
characteristics,	narrow and often subterete ultimate segments that lie in numerous different
etc)	planes so that the leaf has "thickness;" leaves often evidently scaberulous
	(8). Individuals are andromonoeciuos; the umbels flower centripetally, with
	bisexual, protogynous flowers outermost with an umbel (Harden 1929,
	Thompson 1984 in (4)). Each plant bears up to 20 naked stems (scapes)
	which end in an umbel with several hundred male or hermaphroditic flowers
	(Thompson, 1984 in (3)). The petals and stamens are yellow, but quickly dry
	to a whitish color after anthesis (Welsh et al., 200 in (3)).
	This species also has a distinctive pungent odor. Plants leaf out in early
	spring, flower quickly, set seed, and then enter summer dormancy. Seeds
	mature in July (3). Umbels can contain male or hermaphroditic flowers
	(Thompson, 1987 in (3)). Individual plants often do not flower in
	consecutive years (Thompson and Moody, 1985), and there can be
	considerable variation in the number of flowers produced from one
	population to the next (Thompson, 1987 in (3)). Selection for faster growth
	rates and higher flowering frequency at small sizes and early ages may favor
	the more staminate-biased sex ratios (10).

	PROPAGATION DETAILS
Ecotype (this is meant primarily for experimentally derived protocols, and is a description of where the seed that was tested came from):	Intermountain West (2). Rocky Mountain Research Station, Weiser River Road, Idaho; 2130 ft. elevation (1)
Propagation Goal (Options: Plants, Cuttings, Seeds, Bulbs, Somatic Embryos, and/or Other Propagules):	Seeds (1). The seeds are approximately 12 mm (0.5 in) long with broad lateral wings. The lateral wings are approximately 2 mm (0.08 in) wide and comprise up (3).
Propagation Method (Options: Seed or Vegetative):	Seed (1)
Product Type (options: Container (plug), Bareroot (field grown), Plug + (container-field grown hybrids, and/or Propagules (seeds, cuttings, poles, etc.)) Stock Type:	Propagules (seeds, cuttings, poles, etc.) (1)
Time to Grow (from seeding until plants are ready to be outplanted):	3 Years (2).
Target Specifications (size or characteristics	Field produced seed with >95% purity (2).

C 1 .	
of target plants	
to be	
produced):	
Propagule	Small lot, 2.6 pounds, hand collected into paper bags (1). Seed matures in
Collection	July into August. Wildland seed disarticulates readily and is easily hand
(how, when,	collected. Very clean collections can be made by shaking ripened
etc):	inflorescences over a bag or tarp (2,3).
Propagule	METHOD OF CLEANING: Stems were rubbed by hand to remove seed.
Processing/Prop	Seed was then air-screened, to scalp off non-seed material, using a Clipper
agule	Eclipse, Model 324, with a top screen, 24 and then 23 round, a 22 round
Characteristics	middle screen, and a 6 round, bottom screen, low air. Lot was again air-
(including seed	screened using an office Clipper, with a top screen, 24 round and a bottom
density (# per	screen, 6 round, medium speed, medium air. Number of Seeds per Pound:
pound), seed	39,444, Purity: 85%, X-Ray100 Seeds: 65% Filled (1). Minor screening to
longevity, etc):	remove sticks provides excellent purity. Additional cleaning can be done
	with an air-screen cleaner There are approximately 86,000 seeds/kg
	(39,000 seeds/lb) (Barner 2008) (2).
Pre-Planting	Seed of Gray's biscuitroot requires a 3-month moist chilling to relieve
Propagule	dormancy (Shock 2011). Fall-dormant seeding is required for field
Treatments	germination (2).
(cleaning,	Ellison (4) germinated in moistened sand at 5°C under constant light,
dormancy	embryo facing downward 2.5 cm apart in metal trays enclosed in plastic
treatments, etc):	bags with trays rotated and moisted every 1-2 weeks for 2-3 months before
	transplanting into pots. Mean germination time was 46-51 days.
	Germination success was 92.8% for seeds with herbivores excluded from
	developing umbels, and 70.0 % with herbivory present (4).
	Scholten et al. (2009 in (3)) observed that greatest embryo elongation in the
	closely releated fernleaf biscuitroot (L. dissectum) occurred at temperatures
	of 3.4 to $5.5^{\circ}$ C (38 to $42^{\circ}$ F) with the best germination percentages
	occurring at 3.4 C (38° F) with approximately 16 weeks of cold/moist
	stratification (3).
Growing Area	Seed production fields should be seeded at 25 to 30 PLS/ft. Rows planted on
Preparation /	75 cm (30 in) centers allow for between row cultivation and weed control.
Annual	When using weed barrier fabric, plant seeds into 8 cm (3 in) holes at 30 to
Practices for	45 cm (12 to 18 in) spacing (2).
Perennial Crops	
(growing	
media, type and	
size of	
containers, etc):	
Establishment	Ellison (4) grew seedlings in 4x20.5cm and 2.5 x 13 cm pots with a
Phase (from	"greenhouse mix" (55% peat, 45% pumice, N:P:K 11:12:14 (total)
seeding to	containing added micronutients, pH=7.1-7.2) for 45 days in both a growth-
germination):	chamber and greenhouse, watered every two days. Larger seeds produced
	significantly larger plants under most controlled environmental conditions
	after 45 days, including competition with Bromus tectorum and/or herbivory

	on the seed source plant (4). Presumably in field growth, above ground growth is slow as young plants invest significant resources to produce a substantial taproot (2). Plants grow in early spring into summer and go dormant in mid-summer, giving the appearance of mortality. During the first year of establishment, most plants will only produce a few leaves (2). Gray's biscuitroot has exhibited more vigorous, rapid growing seedlings than fernleaf biscuitroot and nineleaf biscuitroot ( <i>L. triternatum</i> ) (3).
Length of Establishment Phase:	1 yr (2).
Active Growth Phase (from germination until plants are no longer actively growing):	Most plants will not produce flowers or fruit during the first 2 to 3 years of growth. Good weed control can be achieved through the use of weed barrier fabric and hand roguing. Because Gray's biscuitroot enters dormancy in early summer, foliar herbicide applications of glyphosate to surrounding weeds are possible after senescence. Highest seed yields have been achieved with the use of supplemental irrigation. Shock and others (2010) showed a significant positive response to irrigation with 10 and 20 cm (4 and 8 in) additional water at Ontario, Oregon. Ontario has a mean annual precipitation of 24 cm (9.5 in), bringing the total received water to approximately 46 cm (18 in) for optimum seed production (2).
Length of Active	7 yrs (2).
Growth Phase:	
Hardening Phase	
(from end of	
active growth	
phase to end of	
growing	
season;	
primarily	
related to the	
development of	
cold-hardiness	
and preparation	
for winter):	
Length of	
Hardening	
Phase:	
Harvesting,	Storage: Cold Storage, 33-38 Degrees Fahrenheit (1). Seed can be harvested
Storage and	in production fields via a vacuum type harvester or flail vac. Seed is cleaned
Shipping (of	using an air screen cleaner. Purities approximating 100% are achievable
seedlings):	with minimal effort. Peak seed yields of over 1590 kg/ha (1,400 lb/ac)
	resulted from 20 cm (8 in) of supplemental irrigation (Shock and others
Laws the s C C t	2010 in (2,3)).
Length of Storage	
(of seedlings,	
between	

nursery and	
nursery and	
outplanting):	$\int C_{aad} \cos ha haa daaat ah drillad ta 2 ta \int \cos (1/2) \cos (1/4) da h into a$
Guidelines for	Seed can be broadcast or drilled to 3 to 6 mm (1/8 to 1/4 in) depth into a
Outplanting /	well prepared, weed-free seed bed. This species should be seeded in late fall
Performance on	as a dormant planting to allow natural stratification. A single species seeding
Typical Sites	rate of approximately 23 lbs/ac provides 25 to 30 seeds/ft (2,3). Large Scale
(eg, percent	Seed Production
survival, height	Shock et al. (2010a in (3)) showed a significant positive response to
or diameter	irrigation with 10 and 20 cm (4 and 8 in) additional water at Ontario,
growth, elapsed	Oregon. Ontario has a mean annual precipitation of 24 cm (9.5 in) (U.S.
time before	Climate Data, 2010 in (3)), bringing the total received water to
flowering):	approximately 46 cm (18 in) for optimum seed production. Peak seed yields
	of over 1590 kg/ha (1,400 lb/ac) resulted from 20 cm (8 in) of supplemental
	irrigation.
	Rows planted on 75 cm (30 in) centers allow for between row cultivation
	and weed control. When using weed barrier fabric, plant seeds into 8 cm (3
	in) holes at 30 to 45 cm (12 to 18 in) spacing (3).
Other Comments	Two separate studies at Ontario, Oregon produced seed in third and fourth
(including	growing season (Shock et al., 2010a and b). Additional techniques are being
collection	investigated regarding the feasibility of growing Gray's biscuitroot densely
restrictions or	in rooting beds prior to field establishment. This method would allow a
guidelines, if	grower to sacrifice a much smaller area in the first 1 to 2 years of plant
available):	development while the plants are not producing seed. Trials indicate that
a (anabic):	taproots transplanted in autumn establish well (Jensen and Anderson, 2010
	in (3)).
	INFORMATION SOURCES
References (full	(1) Barner, Jim 2008. Propagation protocol for production of Lomatium
citations):	grayi (J.M. Coult. & Rose) J.M. Coult. & Rose seeds; USDA FS - R6 Bend
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Other Sources Consulted (but that contained no pertinent information)	
(full citations): Protocol Author (First and last name): Date Protocol	Richard L. Ellison 05/21/12
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