# Plant Propagation Protocol for [Lomatium ambiguum]

### ESRM 412 – Native Plant Production

Spring 2017

## Yang Zhou

	TAXONOMY
Plant Family	Apiaceae
Scientific Name	Lomatium ambiguum (Nutt.) J.M. Coult. &
	Rose
Species Name	Peucedanum ambiguum (Nutt.) Nutt. ex Torr. & A.
	Gray
Varieties	Lomatium nevadense var. parishii,
	Lomatium marginatum var. purpureum,
	Lomatium scabrum var. tripinnatum,
	Lomatium bicolor var. leptocarpum,
	Lomatium simplex var. simplex,
	Lomatium farinosum var. farinosum,
	Lomatium triternatum var. brevifolium,
	Lomatium farinosum var. hambleniae,
	Lomatium triternatum var. macrocarpum
	All of the varieties were recognized by J.M. Coult. &

	Rose
Sub-species	Lomatium dasycarpum ssp. dasycarpum,
	Lomatium foeniculaceum ssp. fimbriatum,
	Lomatium mohavense ssp. longilobum
	Lomatium dasycarpum ssp. tomentosum,
	Lomatium foeniculaceum ssp. foeniculaceum,
	Lomatium mohavense ssp. mohavense.
	All of the sub-species were recognized by J.M. Coult.
	& Rose
Cultivar	Represented by 125 different types of plants
Common Synonym(s)	Cogswellia ambigua (Nutt.) M.E. Jones
	Peucedanum ambiguum (Nutt.) Nutt. ex Torr. & Gray
	(The PLANTS Database, 2010).
Common Name(s)	Wyeth biscuitroot
Species Code (as per USDA Plants	LoAM
database)	
GENERAL INFORMATION	
Geographical range	U.S. Washington, Lincoln, Asotin, Whatcom, Pend
	Orielle Columbia Grant, and Chelan Counties;
	more commonly seen in the eastern parts of the
	Coast-Cascade Mountains, and also in the steps and

	mountains of Indiana, Montana, Oregon, Wyoming,
	and Utah (Brian, 2017). The plant could be also found
	on the west coast of Canada and the islands of the
	Pacific Coast as shown in the map below (Brian, 2017).
	Key:
	• Lomatium ambiguum
Ecological distribution	Could be found in desert, forest, and grassland
	ecosystems (Brian, 2017).
Climate and elevation range	Grasslands, dry and rocky slopes, shrublands in
	Montana and steppe zones
Local habitat and abundance	Lomatium ambiguum could be found in multiple
	inhabitants together with other representatives of the
	family such as Lomatium dissectum and Lomatium
	triernatum (Apiaceae and Araliaceae of North America
	database, 2011).
Plant strategy type / successional	The plant has shown a high tolerance to stressful

stage	weather and environmental conditions, as it could be
	mostly found in deserts and high mountain territories.
	Nevertheless, its complete properties were not
	investigated thoroughly (The PLANTS Database,
	2011).
Plant characteristics	General
	The plant is represented as a glabrous, stout perennial
	herb that has a round, thick and often slender and
	prolongate taproot and in most of the cases grows up to
	80 cm tall, however the smallest size was 10 cm. It has
	shown to grow erect and sometimes gives branches.
	Leaves (Coult. & Rose,1996)
	It has glabrous, basal, and dissected leaves that are
	narrow and are mostly leaflike and thin, less than 5 mm
	in width (ITIS Report).
	Fruits
	Are mostly oblong and narrow or linear and appear to
	be 3-8 times longer than wider.
	Flowers
	The plant grows flowers in the form of compound
	umbels that are yellow, however in some plants could

	also be found white or purple.	
PROP	PROPAGATION DETAILS	
Ecotype	Best grown in low moist soils in desert areas.	
Propagation Goal	Seeds and roots are considered the best ways to	
	propagate the plant.	
Propagation Method	Seeds	
Product Type	Seeds are kept in a cold frame, however best sown	
	when they are ripe. There is a possibility to also sown	
	roots of the plant separately.	
Stock Type		
Time to Grow	Approximately 12 months to germinate when sown in	
	the springtime.	
Target Specifications	Plants grown from 10 cm to 80 cm.	
Propagule Collection Instructions	First the seeds should be sown in nurseries and grown	
	until the appearance of a single leave. When the plant is	
	strong enough it could be replanted to the field in	
	spring, autumn, or summer period. Fresh seed is usually	
	sown in situ as soon as possible.	
Propagule Processing/Propagule	No information is given regarding the topic.	
Characteristics		
Pre-Planting Propagule Treatments	The plant is not demanding regarding soil preparation.	
	Nevertheless, it requires dry soils with medium	

	elevation levels.
Growing Area Preparation / Annual	Desert areas of Washington, Utah, Wyoming.
Practices for Perennial Crops	
Establishment Phase Details	The establishment phase takes place after the seeds
	have been sown into their individual pots as they start
	developing the embryo. Post dispersal seed predators
	can remove about 98.5 % of seeds that do not
	germinate within one year (Thompson, 1985). Under
	normal conditions the seeds are subjected to live under
	dry and warm environment during the summer season,
	chilling temperatures during winter season and moist
	conditions during the autumn. They geminate during
	early spring or late winter.
Length of Establishment Phase	Several weeks
Active Growth Phase	It is a perennial plant, however the period of flowering
	is mostly in June. The active growth phase is also
	interdependent on the period of establishment, which
	would approximately take up to 3 months.
Length of Active Growth Phase	Up to 2 months.
Hardening Phase	The hardening phase takes place at the end of the
	growing season.
Length of Hardening Phase	Limited data is available.

Harvesting, Storage and Shipping	The Lomatium ambiguum is a perennial crop it flowers
	in the month of (June and Cronquist, 1978). The
	seedlings are collected from their individual packages
	and are planted in the dry soil as soon as possible.
	Other seeds are dried and grinded into flour. Some
	Americans grind its seeds into a mush and shape the
	mush into cakes which are stored for later consumption.
	The seeds can be stored in a cool dry place and later
	shipped to other countries such as china, Pakistan,
	Europe and Asia (June and Cronquist, 1978).
Length of Storage	Several weeks
Guidelines for Out planting /	Flowering takes place in late spring and early summer,
Performance on Typical Sites	thus the process is interdependent without planting.
Other Comments	The plant has been researched in a limited way,
	however it has been established that it is potentially
	suitable for human consumption and is generally safe.
	The infusion of its upper leaves and flowers have
	shown potential in treating bacterial and viral infections
	of the upper respiratory tract.
	The roots of the plant could be cooked and were often
	used by Indian tribes of the North America. The quality
	properties of the plan are compared with celery. Upper

leaves and flowers could be used for flavoring soups,	
salads, and other foods.	

#### **INFORMATION SOURCES**

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