HARTWEG'S GOLDEN SUNBURST (PSEUDOBAHIA BAHIIFOLIA)

Federal/California status: Endangered/Endangered California Native Plant Society List 1B



Description

Hartweg's pseudobahia is a small member of the sunflower family (Asteraceae). In years of good rainfall it will be branched and taller (up to 4 inches; 10 cm) with small heads of bright yellow flowers forming a solid carpet of yellow; in years of drought the plants will be up to 2 inches (5 cm) tall and have a single small flower which is easily overlooked. It blooms in March or April and finishes blooming as the weather becomes hot and dry. It is similar in appearance to two common wildflowers, foothill sunburst (Pseudobahia heermannii) and goldfields (Lasthenia species).

Habitat/Range

It is found on pumice soils near Friant Dam, Fresno County. A section of Bureau land has been designated a preserve for the plant and is cooperatively managed by Reclamation and The Nature Conservancy. The population of Hartweg's golden sunburst near Friant is the southernmost occurrence of the plant. It is also known to occur in Stanislaus, Merced, and Madera counties and formerly grew near the boundary of Sutter and Yuba Counties.

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Photos





