

Sericocarpus rigidus

Asteraceae

Rigid white topped aster



Institute of Applied Ecology

plants short (10-30 cm tall)



ray florets 1-3, short, white



involucre bracts thick, with white base and green tip

VASCULAR PLANTS OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST (1966) Hitchcock & Cronquist courtesy of University of Washington Press.



Perennial from slender creeping rhizomes. Stems 10-30 cm tall, usually simple and unbranched up to the close terminal cluster of heads, rarely more branched, glabrous or nearly so except for the scabrous-ciliolate margins of the leaves. Lowermost leaves more or less reduced and usually soon deciduous, the largest ones a little above the base of the stem, 2.5-3.5 cm long, 5-9 mm wide, oblanceolate, tapering to the base, those above rather numerous and only gradually reduced, tending to be somewhat trinerved, often a little scabrous on the midrib beneath. Involucre 7-9 mm high, narrow, the bracts imbricate in several series, with a strong midrib or slight keel, white and chartaceous below, the light green herbaceous tip often loose or spreading. Rays (0)1-3, 1-3 mm long, shorter than the pappus, white. Disk florets few, mostly 9-21, pale yellow, with purple anthers.

Lookalikes

Sericocarpus oregonensis ssp. *oregonensis* (Oregon white topped aster)
Symphotrichum hallii (Hall's aster)

differs from featured plant by

taller (40-120 cm); usually branched; rays 4-7, longer than pappus; heads numerous
 leaves linear-lanceolate



Gerald D. Carr

best survey times
 J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D



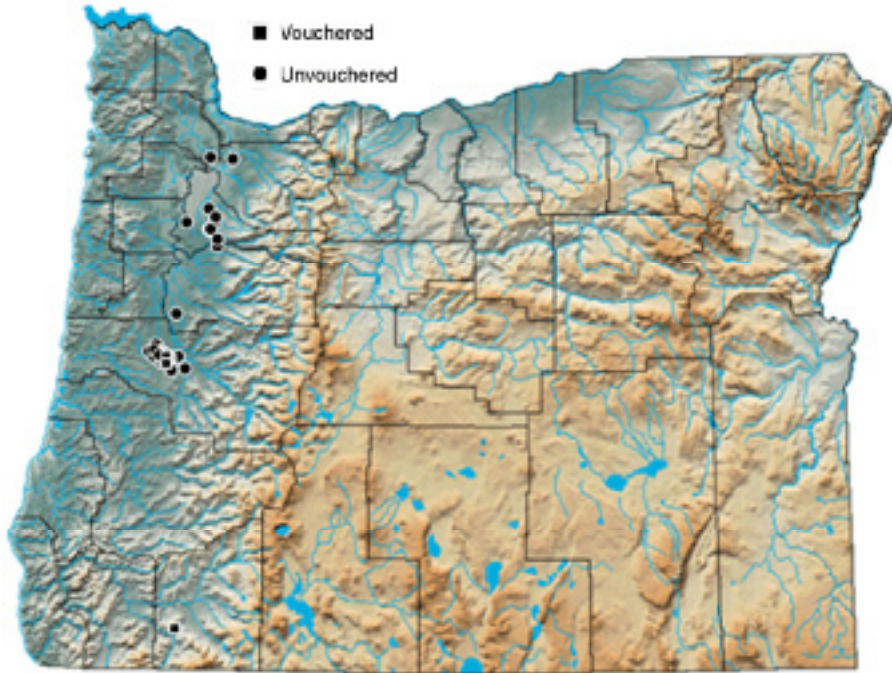
Sericocarpus rigidus Lindl.

(= *Aster curtus*)

Rigid white topped aster

PLANTS symbol: ASCU2

August 2019 status Federal:SOC; Oregon:LT; ORBIC: List 1



Distribution: Willamette Valley; western Washington; British Columbia.

Habitat: Low elevation, moist native prairies, on well-drained upland soils in oak savannas.

Elevation: 50–400 m

Best survey time(in flower): July-early September

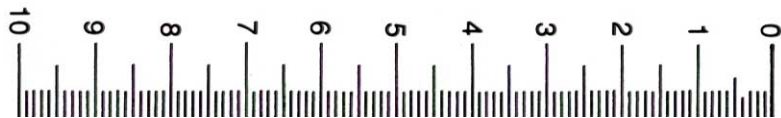
Associated species:

Festuca roemerii var. *roemerii* (Idaho fescue)

Symphotrichum hallii (Hall's aster)

Fraxinus latifolia (Oregon ash)

Quercus garryana (Garry oak)



1 cm



Oregon Flora

<https://oregonflora.org>

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