

Agoseris aurantiaca* (Hook.) Greene var. *carnea
(Rydb.) P. Lesica

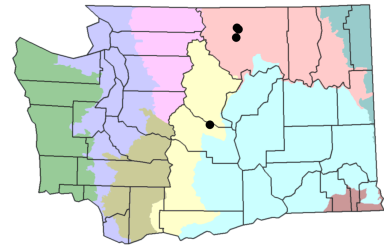
synonym: *Agoseris lackschewitzii* D. Henderson & R.
Moseley

pink agoseris

Asteraceae - aster family

status: State Sensitive

rank: G4 / SU



General Description: Adapted from Henderson et al. (1990) and Douglas et al. (1998-2002): Herbaceous perennial with 1-3 scapes, 6-49 cm tall, villous at base and tomentose below the head, arising from a slender taproot. Leaves thin, oblanceolate, hairless, (4) 6-20 (27) x 0.7-2.2 (3.1) cm, mucronate, entire or occasionally distantly toothed; petiole winged and villous.

Floral Characteristics: Involucre bell-shaped, 1.1-1.9 cm in flower and up to 2.5 cm in fruit; bracts green with purple mottling and a purple median stripe, densely villous basally; 50-70 flowers per head, ligulate and perfect, pink, drying to deep pink, rays 5-10 x 1.5 mm, tubes 6.5 mm; anthers 1.2-1.8 mm. Flowers in middle to late summer.

Fruits: Achenes terete, 6-8 mm long, gradually tapering to a 4.2-6.6 mm nerveless or nearly nerveless beak. Fruits develop in late July and August.

Identification Tips: This variety is not in Hitchcock & Cronquist (1973). Pink flowers, achenes that taper gradually to the beaks, and beaks shorter than the achenes are diagnostic. *A. aurantiaca* var. *aurantiaca* flowers are burnt orange, with achenes that taper abruptly to the beak; *A. elata* has yellow flowers and a beak longer than the body of the achene, 8-10 mm long. Occasional pink-flowering individuals of other *A. aurantiaca* varieties and *A. elata* have been reported and may complicate identification. Flower color alone is usually, but not always, reliable.

Range: Southern B.C., east to Alberta, MT, and ID, south in the Cascades of WA.

Habitat/Ecology: Wet meadows in the upper montane and subalpine zone, likely between 1200 and 2000 m (4000-7000 ft).

Comments: The recent treatment of *Agoseris* in the Flora of North America (1993+) does not include this taxon. Further work may be needed to clarify the relationship of these pink-flowering plants in WA with those in ID and MT, and with *A. elata* and *A. aurantiaca* var. *aurantiaca*.

References: Henderson et al. 1990; Douglas et al. 1998-2002, vol. 1.

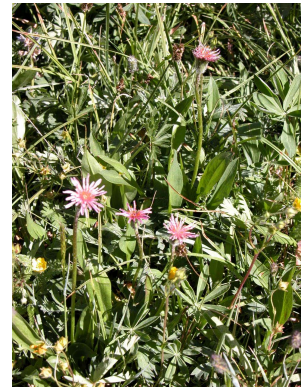


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