

sagebrush stickseed Boraginaceae - borage family

status: State Sensitive, BLM sensitive, USFS sensitive

rank: G4T2T3 / S2S3

General Description: Adapted from Gentry & Carr (1976): Robust perennial, 3.5-6 dm tall, herbage green or the lower stem purplish. Stems several from a stout taproot, erect or ascending, with short, fine, spreading or appressed hairs with nonpustular bases, intermingled with longer, coarse, stiff hairs with distinct pustular bases. Leaves with 2 types of hairs as on the stem. Lower stem leaves broadly lanceolate, subclasping, $5\text{-}9 \times 1.3\text{-}2.6$ cm; those below the inflorescence generally broader, lanceolate to ovate, $2\text{-}4 \times 1.4\text{-}2.5$ cm, reduced to minute bracts in the inflorescence.

Floral Characteristics: Inflorescence with short, fine, upward-appressed hairs. Pedicels 3-10 mm long in fruit; calyx 2-2.5 mm long. Corolla almost bell-shaped, the 5-lobed limb cream-colored, 3-6 mm wide, the lobes broadest at the base; throat commonly brown. Swellings at the top of the throat of the corolla are hairless, nearly smooth, crescent-shaped, much broader than long. Flowers May to June.

Fruits: Generally 4 nutlets, 3.8-4.6 mm long, narrowly ovate; dorsal surface warty and rough with small, stiff hairs, and 8-12 (15) prominent intramarginal prickles. Marginal prickles with confluent bases, forming a broad cuplike border around the main body of the nutlet, the distinct portion of the prickles 0.3-1.3 mm long, occurring in an alternating pattern of long and short.

Identification Tips: This variety is not in Hitchcock & Cronquist (1973). Distinguished from other *Hackelia* species by the nearly bell-shaped, greenish yellow corolla and purplish color on the lower stem. *Hackelia hispida* var. *hispida* is slightly taller, has much narrower lower stem leaves (6-10 mm wide) that are not clasping, leaves with only one type of hair (coarse, spreading, pustulate-based), and usually more intramarginal prickles (12-15, but sometime as few as 8).

Range: Endemic to WA, from the vicinity of Grand Coulee and Moses Coulee.

Habitat/Ecology: Fine to coarse basalt talus, cliffs, or outcrops; sparsely vegetated, dry sites, at elevations of 300 to 760 m (1000-2500 ft). Associated species include big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*), mock-orange (*Philadelphus lewisii*), wax currant (*Ribes cereum*), and spiny hopsage (*Grayia spinosa*).

Comments:

References: Gentry & Carr 1976.



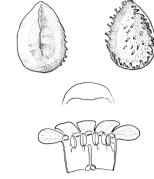


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