

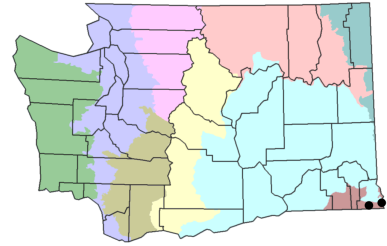
Hackelia hispida* (Gray) I.M. Johnst. var. *hispida

rough stickseed

Boraginaceae - borage family

status: State Threatened, BLM sensitive

rank: G4T4 / S1



General Description: Adapted from Gentry & Carr (1976): Stout taprooted perennial, 4-6 (7) dm tall; stems erect to ascending, distinctly green with a purplish color on the lower half, hairless or with spreading, stiff hairs. Leaves with uniform hairs (all spreading, stiff, and with prominent pustular bases). Lower stem leaves narrowly elliptic, 4-7 cm x 6-10 mm, petiolate; midstem leaves generally sessile, broader and lanceolate or linear-lanceolate, becoming reduced in the inflorescence.

Floral Characteristics: Pedicels (3) 5-8 mm long in fruit; calyx 2-2.5 mm long, oblong. Flowers cream-colored or occasionally greenish, nearly bell-shaped, 3.5-6 mm wide, throat commonly brown. Small crests in the throat of the corolla are hairless, nearly smooth, crescent-shaped, and much broader than long. Flowers May to July.

Fruits: Nutlets usually 4, 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 occurring in an alternating pattern of long and short. The common name, stickseed is due to the barbed prickles on the nutlets.

Identification Tips: Varieties of this species are not in Hitchcock & Cronquist (1973). Distinguished from other *Hackelia* species by the nearly bell-shaped corolla and purplish color on the lower stem. Variety *disjuncta* is distinguished by having leaf hairs of two types (fine hairs, often nearly appressed, lacking pustular bases, intermingled with coarser, spreading hairs with distinctly pustular bases); wider lower stem leaves (13-26 mm) that are nearly clasping; and range (Grand Coulee and Moses Coulee areas).

Range: Regional endemic of the Snake River Canyon area of ID, OR, and southeastern WA.

Habitat/Ecology: Basalt talus slopes, cliffs, and rocky slopes. Elevations in WA: 350-600 m (1200-1900 ft). Associated species include snakeweed (*Gutierrezia sarothrae*), Cusick's milkvetch (*Astragalus cusickii* var. *cusickii*), fern-leaved desert-parsley (*Lomatium dissectum*), bluebunch wheatgrass (*Pseudoroegneria spicata*), and Douglas's bladderpod (*Physaria douglasii*).

Comments:

References: Gentry & Carr 1976.



photo by John Gamon



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