

Potentilla breweri S. Watson

synonym: *Potentilla drummondii* Lehm. ssp. *breweri* (S.

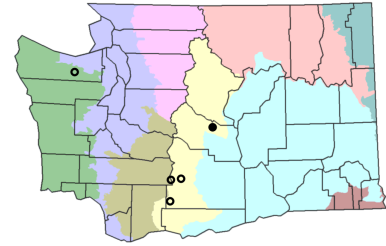
Watson) Ertter

Brewer's cinquefoil

Rosaceae - rose family

status: State Threatened, BLM strategic, USFS strategic

rank: GNR / S1



General Description: Perennial from a simple to sparingly branched crown; distinctly grayish or white-hairy, copiously covered with long, silky, slender, appressed hairs, usually also woolly (at least on the lower surface of the leaves) and lacking glands. Stems (0.5) 1-2.5 (3.5) dm tall. Basal leaves pinnate; leaflets 7-13, overlapping, broadly obovate to wedge-shaped, 1-2 (2.5) cm long, and usually deeply cleft to palmately lobed greater than half way to the midvein. Petioles generally less than the blade and cottony-hairy. Stipules ovate to lanceolate, 5-15 mm long, membranous and entire below to leaflike and toothed above. Stem leaves 2-3, greatly reduced.

Floral Characteristics: Inflorescence a cyme; flowers several. Calyx with silky to woolly hairs, shallowly cup-shaped, up to 1.5 cm broad in fruit, lobes usually lanceolate, with linear to lanceolate bracteoles shorter than the lobes. Petals yellow, obovate to heart-shaped, exceeding the sepals. Stamens usually 20. Pistils numerous; style slender, subapical, longer than the achene.

Fruits: Achenes smooth, greenish, 1.3 mm. Identifiable June to August.

Identification Tips: Distinguished by its pinnate basal leaves, yellow flowers, long slender style, lack of glands, and white to gray woolly hairs. *Potentilla ovina* is primarily a Rocky Mts. species with (7) 9-21 leaflets per leaf; leaflets are rarely 1 cm long, and they are hairy but rarely have gray-woolly hairs beneath. Subspecies of *P. drummondii* have petioles that are generally greater than the blade, fewer leaflets per leaf, and pinnately toothed leaflets. *P. drummondii* ssp. *drummondii* has greenish leaflets that generally do not overlap.

Range: From CA to OR and WA, and east to the mountains of central NV and UT.

Habitat/Ecology: Moist meadows, lake margins, and stream banks to dry, open, exposed slopes in alpine to mid-montane areas. Elevations in WA: 1500-2000 m (5000-6000 ft).

Comments:

References: Hickman 1993.

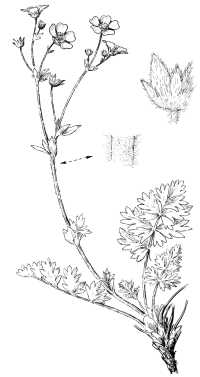


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