

*Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge*  
*Field Guide to Flowers*  
*Visitor's Center Area*

*Sheryl M. Mayfield*



## *Acknowledgments*

A field trip had been canceled, unbeknown to me, five years ago on my birthday, I stumbled onto Sevilleta—and John DeWitt let me in. I never really left in spirit.

Terry Tadano, manager of the refuge, gave me unfailing support from the very beginning. This project was a labor of love growing like Topsy over the years from a simple checklist, of a single day's hike—to this. DeWitt Ivey gave me especially valuable botanical information throughout. Carolyn and Bill Dodson walked with me over the desert hills offering ideas and suggestions, some slides, and botanical knowledge. Jane Mygatt opened the UNM Herbarium to me, even on a Saturday. Troy Maddux, Gene Jersinovic, and Mike Friggens graciously offered additional experience and expertise.

Susan Mayfield saved the day (and the book) with her very professional graphic design skills, scanning the slides and photos and preparing the manuscript over long hours to its final form. She bestowed upon it a polish it would not have otherwise had. This was a volunteer work from beginning to finished product.

It was hard to end the lucky adventure. I know there are even more plants to find, and mysteries to solve, even in this modest square mile.

*Mindy*



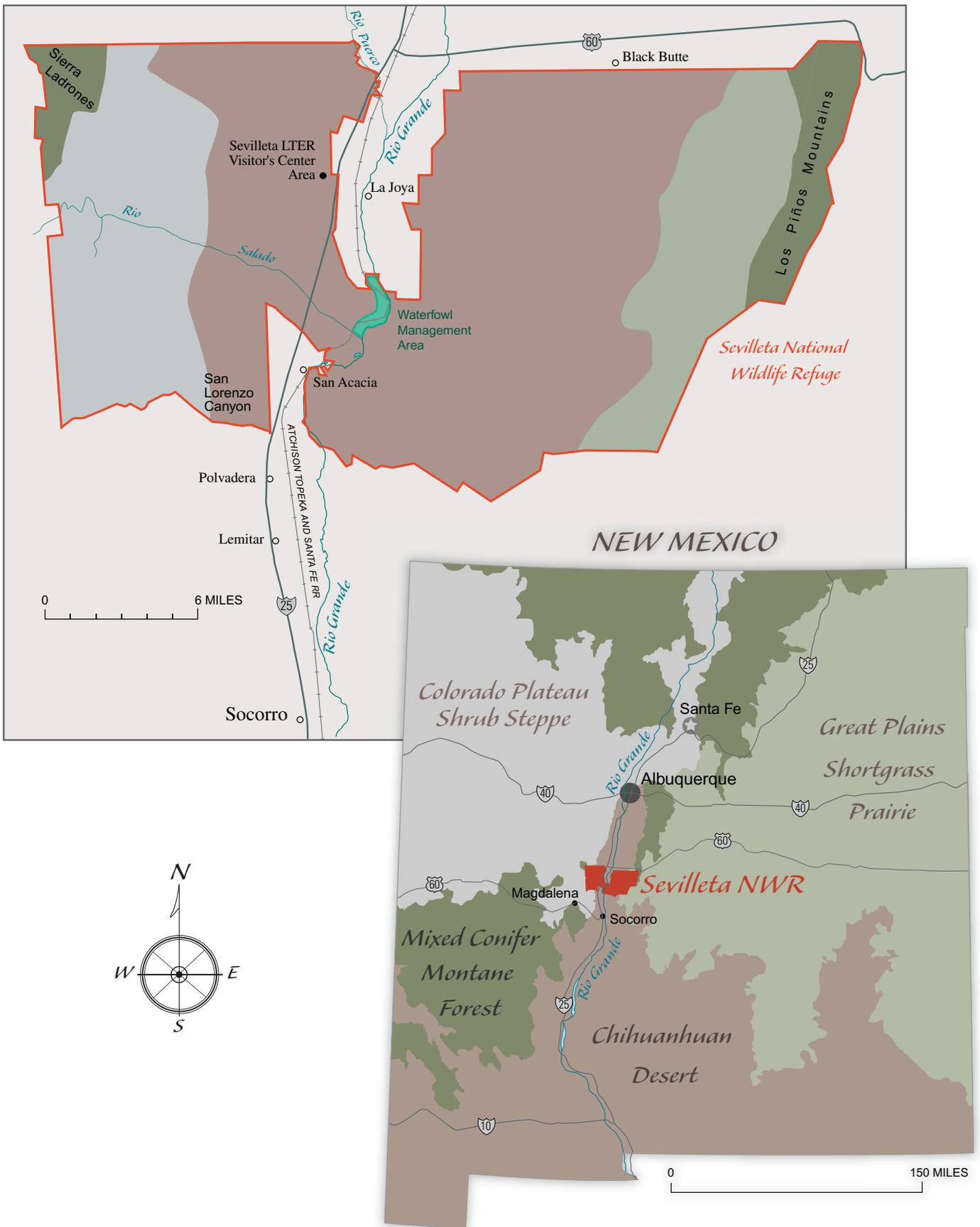
© 2004 by Sheryl M. Mayfield

All drawings by Sheryl M. Mayfield.

All photographs by Sheryl M. Mayfield unless otherwise noted.

Cover image: Sevilleta Visitor's Center Area

*Location map of Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), New Mexico.*



# CONTENTS

Acknowledgments	<i>ii</i>
White flowers	<i>1</i>
Yellow flowers	<i>10</i>
All other colors	<i>27</i>
Cacti	<i>37</i>
Trees	<i>40</i>
Alphabetical List of Flowering Plants Identified	<i>42</i>
Index	<i>47</i>

The calendars near each plant description note blooming times and abundance of blooming plants for the small area (about one square mile) described in this document. It is based on 4 years of close observation in the field. It is expected that with each year's variations in climate and other conditions, these results will vary.

## CALENDAR KEY

	Very common
	Common
	Uncommon
	Very uncommon

*All drawings are life size except where noted.*

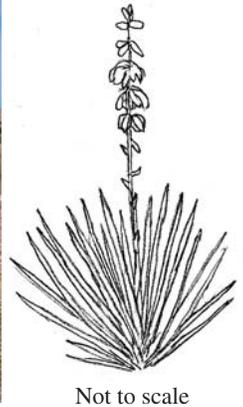
**White Flowers**---large, 1 ½ inch wide and much longer

**Soapweed yucca**



**Yucca**---to 5 feet. **Leaves:** very long, stiff, narrow, and spine-tipped, growing from base of the plant. **Flowers:** hang down like bells along thick tall stalks. **Fruits:** clusters of large oblong capsules. **Distribution:** scattered throughout, especially in upland areas. **Remarks:** Native Americans used the roots to make soap and shampoo. The leaf fibers were woven into baskets, floor mats, rope, sandals, belts, etc. Young flowers were commonly eaten as a vegetable.

AGAVACEAE Agave family (*Yucca glauca*) syn. *Y. angustissima*



**White Flowers**---small, but in larger clusters

**Littleleaf sumac**



**Shrub**---to 6 feet, with woody branches. Young stems can be reddish. The twigs are often sharply pointed. **Leaves:** small, soft, green, and compound. **Flowers:** appearing just as the leaves are growing in the early spring, found in crowded rounded clusters. **Fruits:** small, hairy, orange “berries”. **Distribution:** planted near LTER buildings, and found occasionally elsewhere on slopes. **Remarks:** The fruit can be brewed into a tea (cold or hot), and is also eaten by many kinds of wildlife.

ANACARDIACEAE Sumac family (*Rhus microphylla*)



Photo shows plant with fruit clusters. Flower branchlet is one of hundreds (inset bottom right).

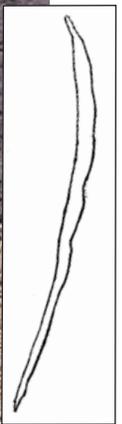
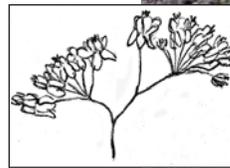
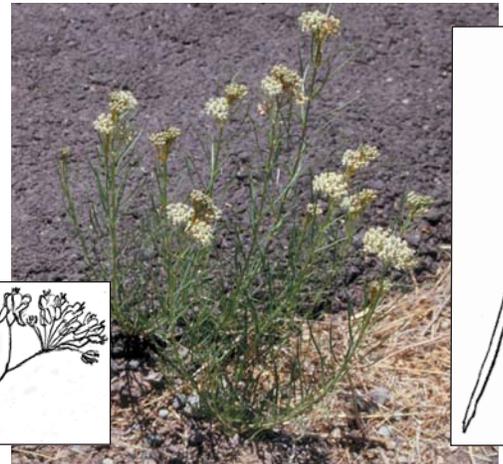
**White Flowers**---tiny, ⅛ inch, but in larger clusters

**Poison or Horsetail milkweed**



**Herb**---to 2 feet, with erect stems and a few branches. **Leaves:** threadlike, smooth, arranged opposite or in whorls of 3-5 around the stem. **Flowers:** white to cream, found in large clusters at top of the stems. **Fruits:** long pods containing many silky hairs attached to seeds. **Distribution:** near roads or in arroyos. **Remarks:** this plant is poisonous to livestock; however it is reported Native Americans ate most of the young plant, raw or boiled.

ASCLEPIADACEAE Milkweed family (*Asclepias subverticillata*)



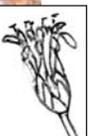
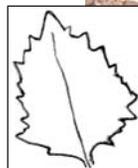
**White to Pink Flowers**--- ¼ to ½ inch

**Dwarf desert holly**



**Herb**---to 6 inches, usually single stemmed from the base. **Leaves:** triangle-shaped to roundish, toothed, sharp and pointed, persisting in white papery form through the winter. **Flowers:** white or pale pink, vase-shaped with petallike structures at the top. **Fruits:** pale yellow, dandelion-type seed balls. **Distribution:** slopes. **Remarks:** this plant is usually found in the shade of taller shrubs or trees. It is not a true holly but the leaves look similar.

ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Acourtia nana*)



**Whitish Green Flowers**---tiny, inconspicuous

APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----



**Sand or Threadleaf sagebrush**

**Shrub**---to 3 ½ feet, woody at base, with gray-brown furrowed bark. There is a lacy bluish look.

**Leaves:** threadlike, soft to the touch, aromatic, remaining on plant year around.

**Flowers:** whitish-green, massed along upper stems on very short thin stalks.

**Fruits:** tiny and pale, sometimes pink.

**Distribution:** widely scattered.

**Remarks:** Native Americans brew a medicinal tea from the leaves. The spice, sage, used in cooking is made from *Salvia* in the Mint family, not from *Artemisia*.



One branchlet of hundreds



ASTERACEAE  
Composite family  
(*Artemisia filifolia*)

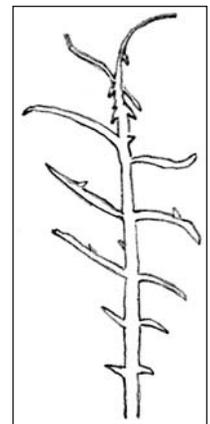
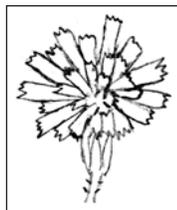
**White Flowers**---large, 1 inch+

APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

**Wright's tackstem**

**Herb**---to 8 inches high. **Leaves:** gray-green, very dissected, skeleton-like. Nearly all the leaves are at the base of the plant. **Flowers:** white rays with a yellow center. There are pink stripes on underside of the rays. **Fruits:** like a dandelion. **Distribution:** very uncommon at this site, sometimes on slopes.

**Remarks:** Notice the tack shaped glands on the stems.



ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Calycoseris wrightii*)

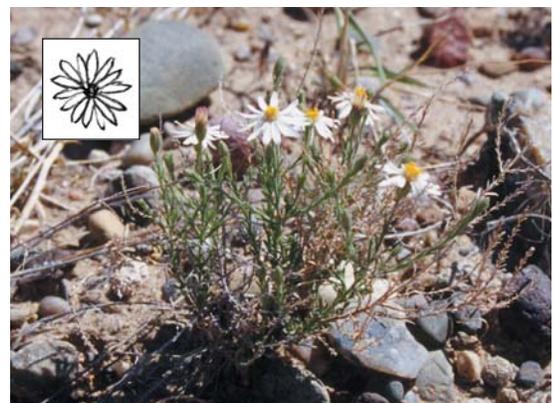
**White Flowers**---½ inch

APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

**Baby aster**

**Herb**---to 6 inches, hairy, and often with numerous stems. Many plants are frequently grouped together. **Leaves:** small, hugging the stems. **Flowers:** white rays (about 14-20) with a small, projecting, gold center, found at the end of leafy stems. The rays are often folded under in drought. The buds and the underside of the rays can be pink. **Distribution:** sometimes along roads, but also scattered.

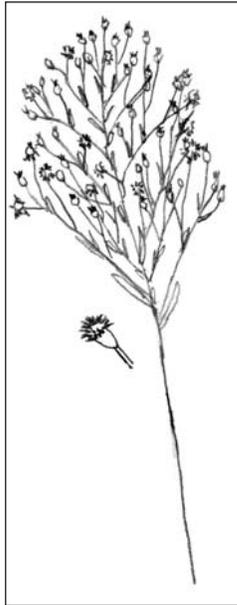
ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Chaetopappa ericoides*)  
syn. *Leucelene ericoides*



White Flowers---tiny

**Canadian horseweed**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |

**Herb**---to 3 feet, weedy. Usually there is one thick green stem from the base, branched. The top of the plant looks somewhat like a brush. **Leaves:** alternate, green with wavy margins. **Flowers:** numerous, tiny, narrow, white rays with a yellow center, protruding from a vasselike structure. **Fruits:** clustered in heads of white or tawny hairs. **Distribution:** disturbed ground. **Remarks:** the common name derives from the observation that horses sneeze when they push their noses into the foliage.



ASTERACEAE  
 Composite family  
 (*Conyza canadensis*)

White Flowers---to 1/2 inch

**Fleabane**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |     |     |     |     |     |     |

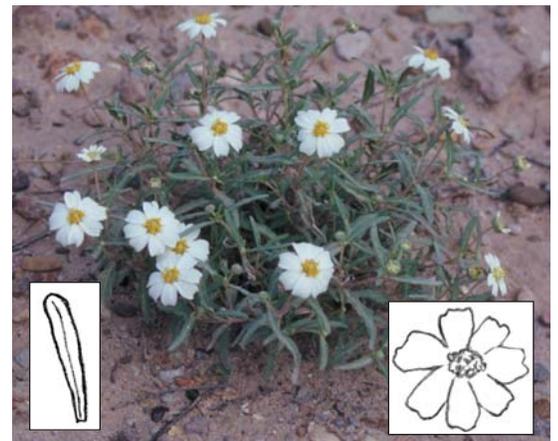
**Herb**---to 6 inches, one or many stems from base, sometimes branched. **Leaves:** most are narrow and hairy. **Flowers:** many (40-100+) extremely narrow white rays, each about as wide as a piece of construction paper is thick, (pink on the underside and in bud) with a yellow center. **Distribution:** scattered, especially near roads. **Remarks:** A few plants from the genus *Aphanostephus* can be seen at this site. They look very much like *Erigeron*, and bloom roughly at the same time, except they have lobed leaves and fewer (around 20+) rays, each ray wider--about a quarter's thickness. ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Erigeron sp.*)



White Flowers---to 1 inch

**Blackfoot daisy**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |     |     |     |     |     |     |

**Herb**---to 1 foot, with bunched pink stems. **Leaves:** ash-gray. **Flowers:** showy, numerous, with white notched rays, and a yellow center. The flowers are borne singly on stalks. The rays persist in papery form for many weeks past the bloom. **Distribution:** abundant. **Remarks:** a plant somewhat similar in appearance with smaller flowers *Townsendia annua* (Annual Easter daisy) blooms in the area in the spring. It is a small very sprawling plant, with semi prostrate stems. The flower has more rays, about 22, and they are pointed. ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Melampodium leucanthum*)

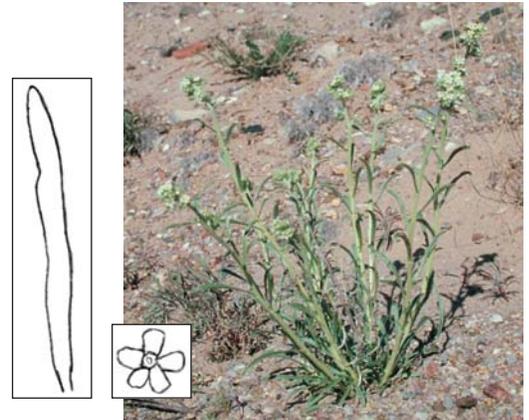


**White Flowers**---small, ¼ inch, but in larger groups

**Cat's eye**



**Herb**---to 1 foot, with hairy stems. **Leaves:** narrow, hairy, gray-green, alternate, and numerous. **Flowers:** thick, vase-shaped, opening into 5 petals, white with a yellow center. They are borne along the tops of stems. **Fruits:** green capsules. **Distribution:** near roads and scattered throughout. **Remarks:** A smaller plant somewhat similar in appearance *Lappula occidentalis* (Desert stickseed) also blooms on the site. Stickseed is very weedy, with tiny inconspicuous white flowers and yellowgreen leaves. Distinctive tiny yellow sticky burs form along stems.  
BORAGINACEAE Borage family (*Cryptantha cinerea*) syn. *C. jamesii*



**White Flowers**---tiny, in clusters

**Hiddenflower**

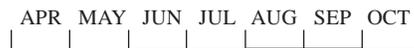


**Herb**---to 6 inches, weedy appearance, with woolly stems. **Leaves:** narrow, hairy, and alternate. **Flowers:** white curved clusters at the ends of stems. **Fruits:** tiny and fuzzy. **Distribution:** disturbed ground and scattered throughout, can be abundant after wet winters.  
BORAGINACEAE  
Borage family  
(*Cryptantha crassisejala*)

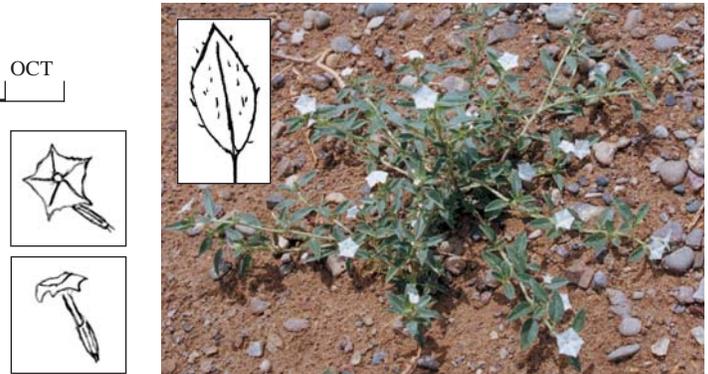


**White Flowers**---small, to about ½ inch

**Bindweed heliotrope**



**Herb**---to 1 foot, stems spreading, hairy, and much branched. **Leaves:** alternate, narrow, oval, and hairy. **Flowers:** white, with petals fused at the end of a tiny narrow yellow vase, borne singly along stems. **Fruits:** chambered nutlets. **Distribution:** near roads and also scattered throughout.  
BORAGINACEAE  
Borage family  
(*Heliotropium convolvulaceum*)

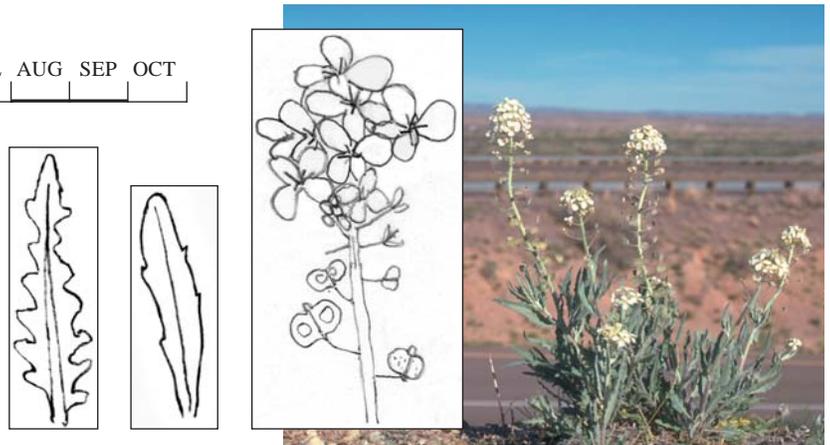


**White Flowers**---½ inch, in larger groups

**Spectacle pod**

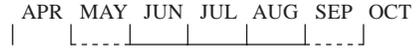


**Herb**---to 1½ feet, stems erect and hairy. **Leaves:** alternate, large, bluish, with wavy and toothed edges. **Flowers:** 4 petals, found on long stalks near the top of the plant. **Fruits:** paired capsules that look something like eyeglasses. **Distribution:** often near roads. Can be very common after a wet winter.  
BRASSICACEAE  
Mustard family  
(*Dimorphocarpa wislizeni*) syn. *Dithyrea wislizeni*

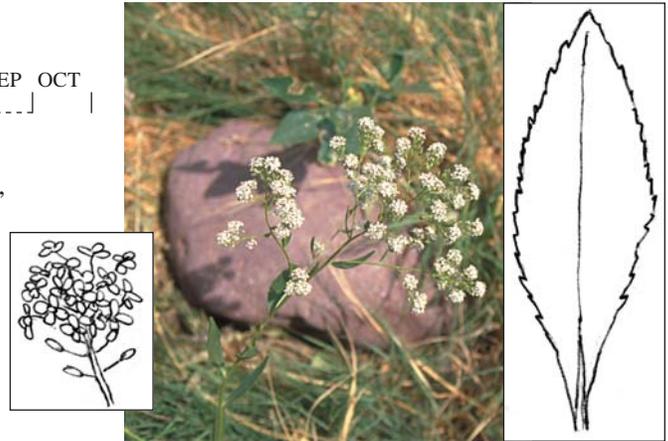


**White Flowers**---tiny, in dense clusters

**Broadleaf pepperweed**

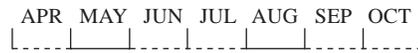


**Herb**---to 3 feet, with multiple, thick, pale green stems from base. **Leaves:** thick, leathery, alternate, and large. **Flowers:** numerous, near the top of the plant. **Fruits:** tiny rounded pods, greenish at first, turning to white. **Distribution:** septic system area near the LTER buildings. **Remarks:** this is an aggressive invasive plant crowding out many native species in lowlands, found often along ditches in New Mexico.  
BRASSICACEAE Mustard family (*Lepidium latifolium*)  
introduced from Eurasia

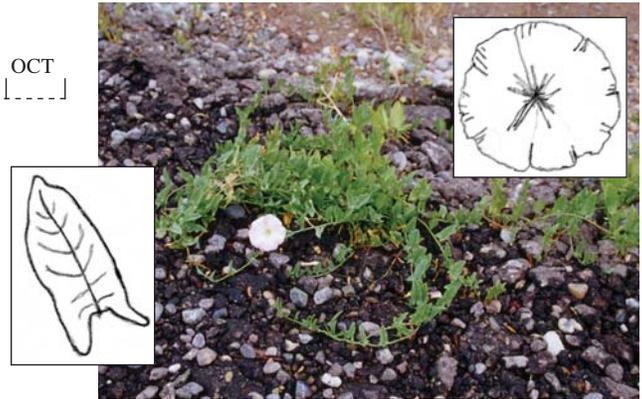


**White (some partly Pink)**---large, 1 inch

**Field bindweed**

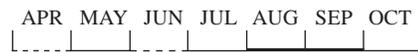


**Vine**---weedy appearance, with slender stems creeping along the ground. The stems can be several feet long. **Leaves:** numerous, alternate, and arrowhead-shaped. **Flowers:** trumpet-shaped with petals fused at the end, borne along the stems. **Distribution:** near roads. **Remarks:** very adaptable and very difficult to eradicate, because of a deep root system. Each rootlet can grow into a new plant. This is a common plant throughout the United States.  
CONVOLVULACEAE Morning glory family (*Convolvulus arvensis*)  
introduced from Eurasia

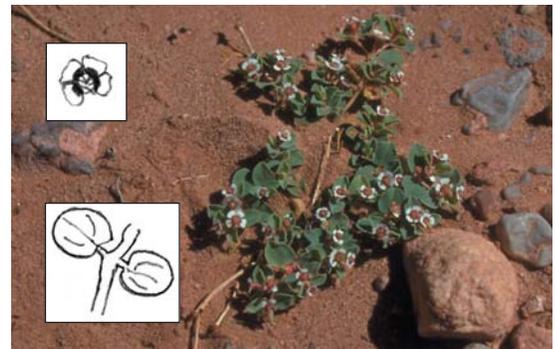


**White Flowers**---tiny

**Rattlesnakeweed, Spurge**

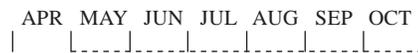


**Creeping Herb**---weedy stems flat on the ground, containing milky juice. **Leaves:** opposite and rounded. **Flowers:** each composed of 3-4 white petallike structures with a red center, found along stems. **Distribution:** near roads and arroyos. **Remarks:** there is also another closely related species of *Chamaesyce* (Spurge) found in this area. It has even smaller tiny white petallike structures with some red flower parts. One really needs a hand lens to see this flower.  
EUPHORBIACEAE Euphorbia family (*Chamaesyce albomarginata*)

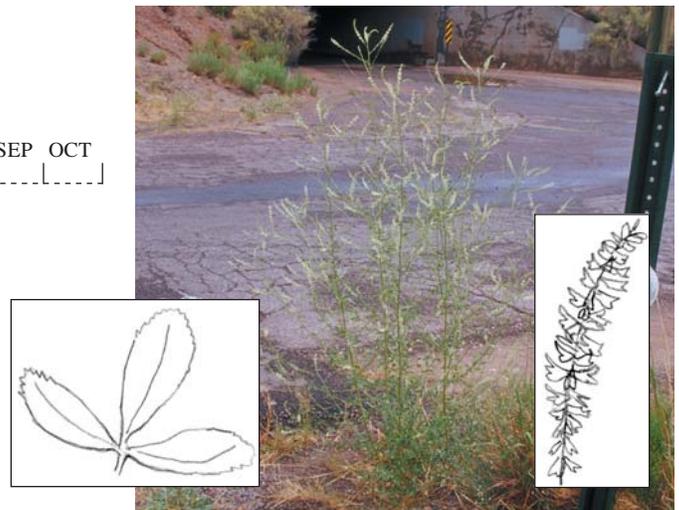


**White Flowers**---tiny, in large clusters

**White sweetclover**



**Herb**---to 5 feet, branched erect stems, green striped with red. **Leaves:** divided into 3 leaflets, with edges very slightly toothed. **Flowers:** grouped along long flower stalks. **Distribution:** near road at entrance. **Remarks:** this is a common weed throughout the United States, much favored by honeybees. The plant looks superficially just like *Melilotus officinalis* (Yellow sweetclover) except for the color of the flower.  
FABACEAE Legume family (*Melilotus albus*)  
introduced from Europe

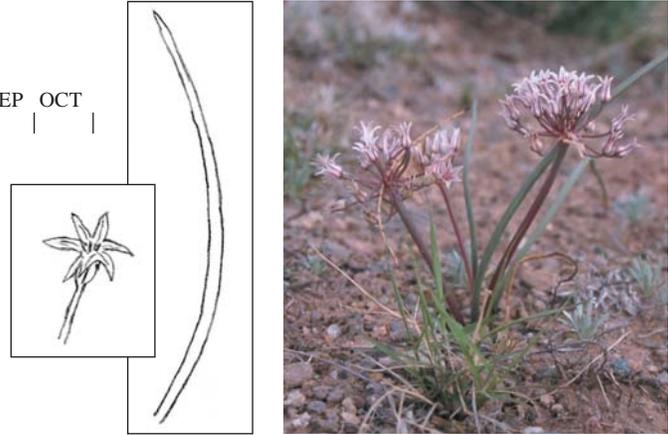


**White Flowers**---small, to ¼ inch, but clustered

**Wild onion**

APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT  
 [----] | | | | | | |

**Herb**---to 7 inches, with green and pink, leafless flower stalks. **Leaves:** growing from base of the plant, long and nearly cylindrical. **Flowers:** there appears to be 6 petals (but actually 3 true petals and 3 sepals), each white with a purple center stripe. **Distribution:** only blooming after particularly rainy winters, found scattered. **Remarks:** Native Americans ate the bulbs as well as the leaves.  
 LILIACEAE Lily family (*Allium macropetalum*)

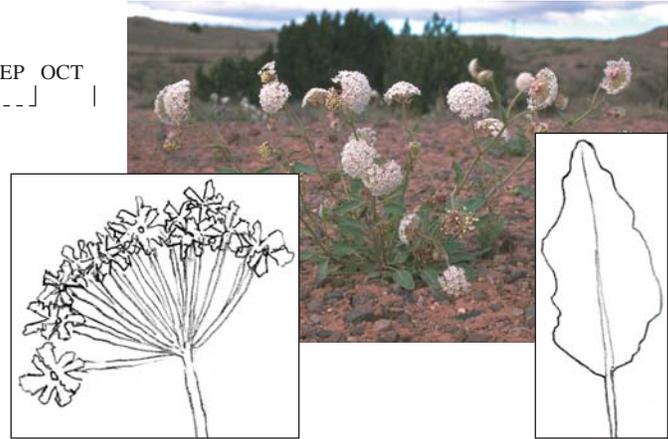


**White Flowers**---small, to ½ inch, in larger clusters

**Snowball or Fragrant sandverbena**

APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT  
 [-----] | | | | | | |

**Herb**---to 1 foot, with many hairy, pink stems from base, a little sticky. **Leaves:** large, thick, and green. **Flowers:** showy, clustered, and umbrella-shaped. Each flower consists of a slender tube that flares out into petallike extensions with ruffled edges. **Fruits:** pink and globular, very showy and papery-winged in maturity. **Distribution:** only blooming after an especially rainy period, uncommon at this site.  
 NYCTAGINACEAE Four o'clock family (*Abronia fragrans*)

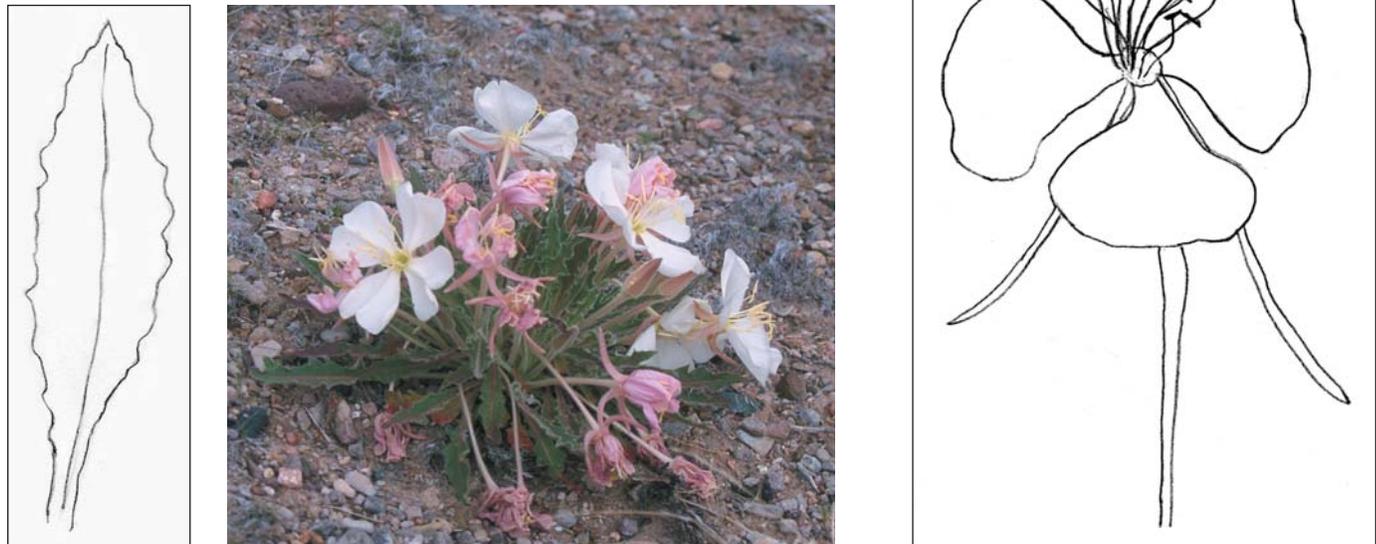


**White Flowers**---giant, to 3 inches

**Stemless evening-primrose**

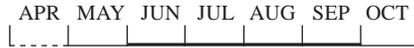
APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT  
 [-----] | | | | | | |

**Herb**---3 to 9 inches, sometimes many flower stems from the base of the plant. **Leaves:** clustered only at the ground (no leaves on the flower stems), long, big toothed, wavy-edged, and hairy. **Flowers:** showy, large, white but aging to pink. **Distribution:** especially on slopes but also scattered elsewhere. **Remarks:** the beautiful flowers open in the evening and bloom through the next morning.  
 ONAGRACEAE Evening-primrose family (*Oenothera caespitosa*)

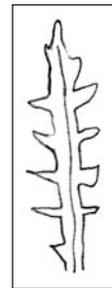
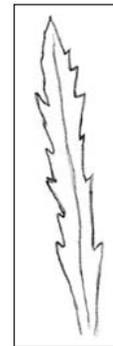
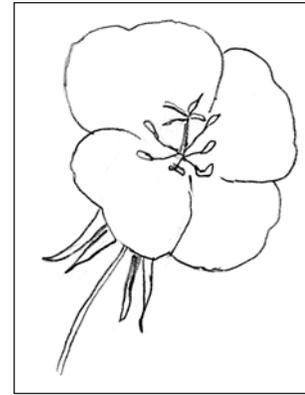


**White to Pink Flowers**---large, to 1 ½ inch

**Pale evening-primrose**



**Herb**---to 1 foot+, a perennial. There are several stems from the base, branched, with red and silver peeling bark. **Leaves:** many leaves on the stems, quite variable in shape, blue-green. **Flowers:** 4 petals. The newest flowers are white, turning to pink as they age. They are borne on pink stalks. **Distribution:** near roads and scattered elsewhere. **Remarks:** A very similar annual plant *Oenothera albicaulis* also blooms here.  
 ONAGRACEAE Evening-primrose family (*Oenothera pallida*)

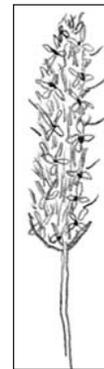


**White Flowers**---tiny, on spikes

**Woolly plantain**

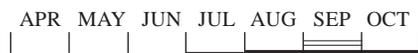


**Herb**---to 9 inches (but often 1 inch high), and woolly. This is a small plant. **Leaves:** very hairy, bluish green, clustered at the base of plant. **Flowers:** very small, four translucent petals with a yellow center, clustered around puffy spikes. **Distribution:** scattered throughout. This can be very common after a wet winter. **Remarks:** Native Americans ate the seed medicinally as a laxative.  
 PLANTAGINACEAE Plantain family (*Plantago patagonica*)

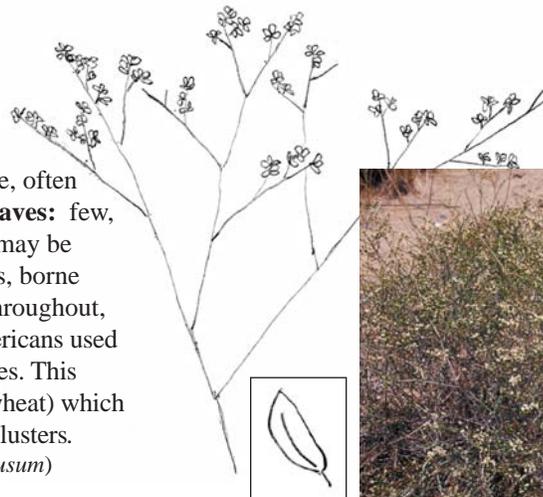


**White to Pink Flowers**---tiny

**Spreading buckwheat**

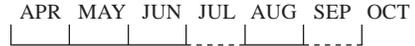


**Herb** some **Shrublike**---to 1 ½ feet, hairy, woody at base, often tangled with branches, green (orange late in season). **Leaves:** few, found near ground, blue-green. At blooming time there may be no leaves left at all. **Flowers:** white and pink, numerous, borne loosely grouped along stalks. **Distribution:** scattered throughout, very prominent at this site in fall. **Remarks:** Native Americans used parts of this and related species to treat a variety of illnesses. This plant looks much like *Eriogonum annuum* (Annual buckwheat) which tends to have only a few branches and flat topped flower clusters.  
 POLYGONACEAE Buckwheat family (*Eriogonum effusum*)

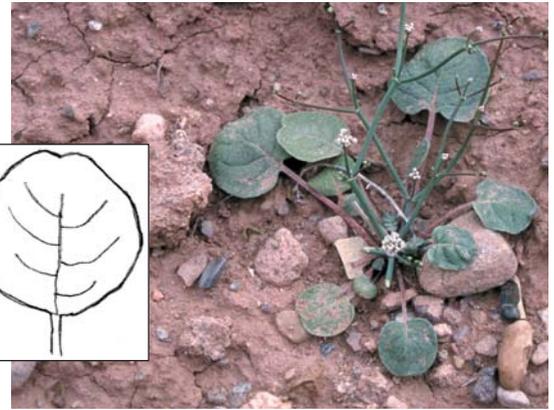
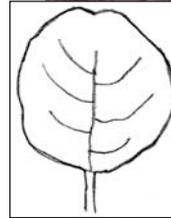
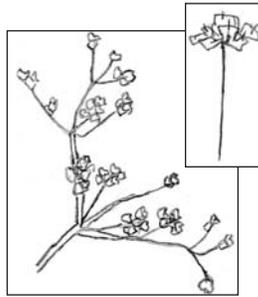


White Flowers---tiny, in clusters

**Roundleaf buckwheat**

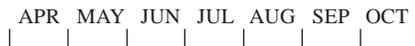


**Herb**---to 6 inches, with several branched (sometimes pink) stems from the base of the plant. **Leaves:** round, and found only at the base of plant. **Flowers:** along long leafless stems, on tiny stalks, with fan-shaped “petals”. **Distribution:** often scattered on hillsides. POLYGONACEAE Buckwheat family (*Eriogonum rotundifolium*)

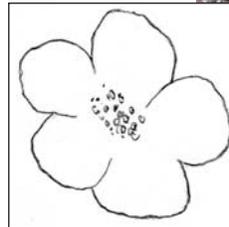


White Flowers---large, 1 inch

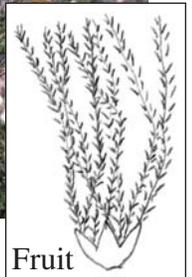
**Apache plume**



**Shrub**---to 5 feet, much branched, gray bark (with brown stripes). **Leaves:** small and hairy, clustered, deeply cleft like fingers. **Flowers:** Looks like a rose or apple blossom. **Fruits:** showy, long, pink, feathery, plumelike, many clustered together in a spray. **Distribution:** arroyos. **Remarks:** Native Americans used the branches to make arrows, and house brooms. ROSACEAE Rose family (*Fallugia paradoxa*)



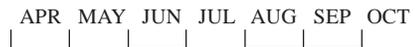
Leaf



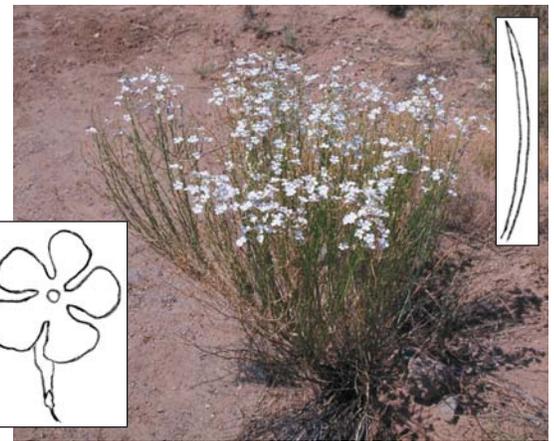
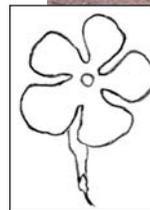
Fruit

White to Pink Flowers---medium+

**Sand or Plains penstemon**



**Herb** some **Shrublike**---to 3 feet, very attractive, with a rounded shape. It is woody near the base, usually with many branched stems. **Leaves:** very narrow, opposite, and yellow-green. **Flowers:** numerous, covering the top of the plant, each is white with a pink base. Each is shaped like a trumpet with 5 lobes at the end. **Fruits:** little green ovoid structures, which dry and open to orange-brown, tulip-shaped capsules. **Distribution:** common. SCROPHULARIACEAE Snapdragon family (*Penstemon ambiguus*)

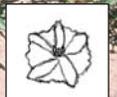
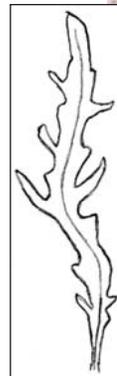


Whitish Green Flowers---to 1/2 inch

**Greenleaf five eyes**



**Herb**---to 6 inches, low growing, branched from the base, hairy. The older stems are often purplish. **Leaves:** wavy-edged, larger ones can be deeply lobed. **Flowers:** flat, starlike in shape, with 5 joined petals. The flower is usually solitary on the stems. **Fruits:** whitish smooth berries. **Distribution:** along roads. **Remarks:** Native Americans collected the seeds and ground them into meal. SOLANACEAE Potato family (*Chamaesaracha coronopus*)



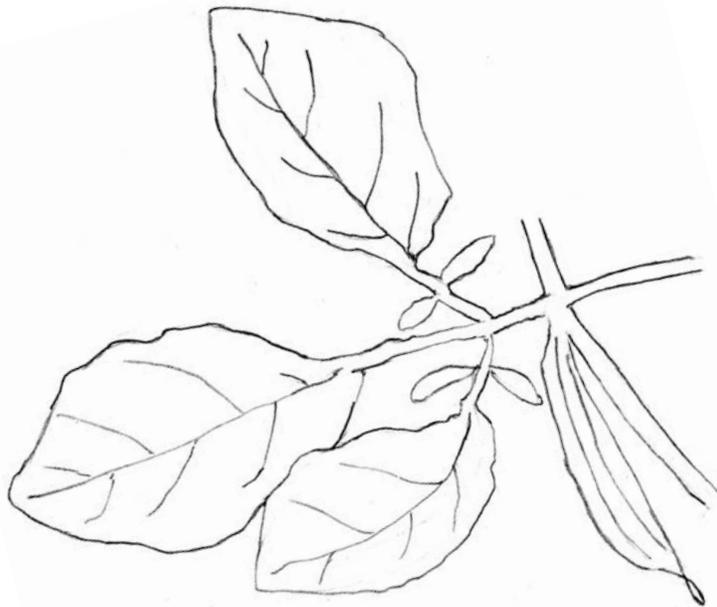
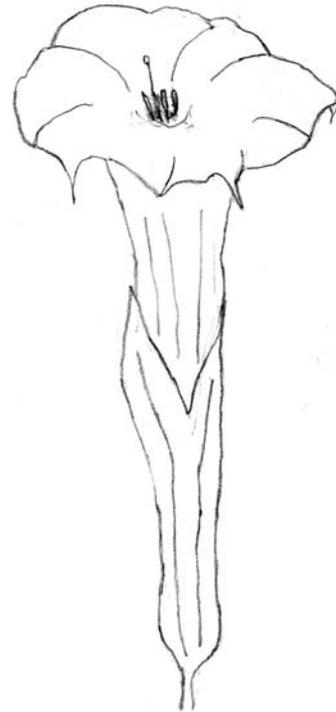
**White Flowers**---giant, 4 inches in diameter and much longer

**Moonflower, Jimsonweed**

APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT  
 | [ ..... ] [ ..... ] [ ..... ] [ ..... ] [ ..... ] [ ..... ] [ ..... ]

**Herb**---to 3 feet, bushy in appearance, with many stems from base, branched. It is soft to the touch, and sweetly scented. **Leaves:** opposite, usually very large, oval, green. **Flowers:** showy, giant, white, and funnel-shaped. They open at night through the next morning. The buds look like long, green (sometimes purplish) "candles". **Fruits:** large, round, spiny. **Distribution:** planted near buildings and widely scattered elsewhere. **Remarks:** very beautiful flowers. The plant is poisonous, and has caused deaths. However it has also been used as a narcotic in Native American ceremonies, and as a medicine. Don't experiment with this plant, it affects the involuntary muscles.

SOLANACEAE Potato family (*Datura wrightii*) syn. *D. meteloides*



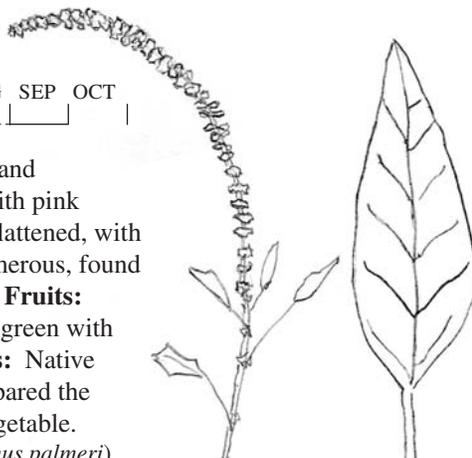
**Yellow-Green Flowers**---tiny, but in large clusters

**Carelessweed**

APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT  
 | | | | | | | |

**Herb**---to 3 feet, weedy, with one thick central stem, and many branches. The stem is pale green and striped with pink (sometimes mostly pink). **Leaves:** green, alternate, flattened, with prominent whitish veins on underside. **Flowers:** numerous, found in long drooping spikes at top of branches, no petals. **Fruits:** soft-bristled, clumped along the stems, at first mostly green with a touch of pink. **Distribution:** near roads. **Remarks:** Native Americans gathered and ate the seeds. They also prepared the vitamin rich greens for salads or cooked them as a vegetable.

AMARANTHACEAE Amaranth family (*Amaranthus palmeri*)



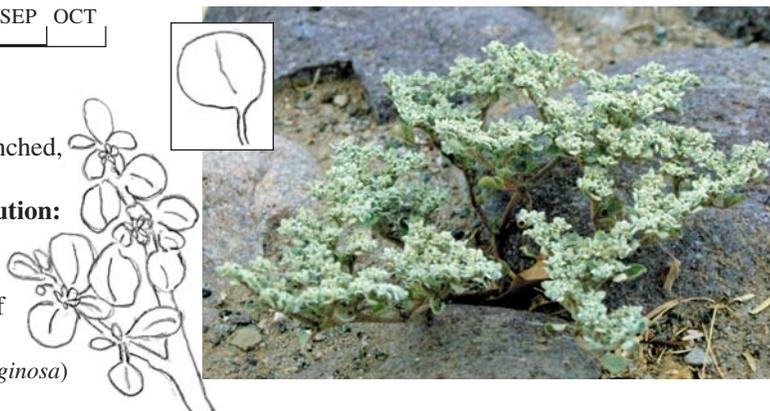
**Yellow Flowers**---tiny

APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT  
 | | | | | | | |

**Woolly tidestromia**

**Creeping Herb**---to 6 inches, sprawling, and much branched, somewhat fleshy with pink stems. **Leaves:** oval, white hairy. **Flowers:** borne singly along the stems. **Distribution:** scattered throughout area. **Remarks:** in Spanish it is called *espanta vaqueros* (scares ranchers) because it can produce a widespread ground cover in some parts of its range.

AMARANTHACEAE Amaranth family (*Tidestromia lanuginosa*)



**Yellow-Pink Flowers**---tiny, in clusters

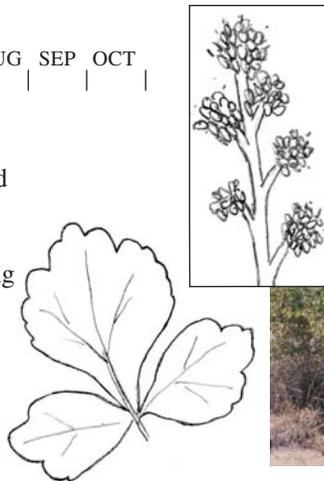
**Lemonadeberry,**

APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT  
 | | | | | | | |

**Threeleaf sumac, Fragrant sumac**

**Shrub**---to 5 feet, woody. The scented, bark is gray mottled with brown. **Leaves:** green, divided into 3 toothed leaflets. **Flowers:** in small clusters, blooming very early in the spring. **Fruits:** round, berrylike, first green and then turning to orange or red. **Distribution:** near arroyos or planted at buildings. **Remarks:** Native Americans used the fruit to make a kind of "lemonade". The branches were cut into arrows, the bark made into baskets, the leaves smoked like tobacco, or boiled into a black dye.

ANACARDIACEAE Sumac family (*Rhus trilobata*)



**Yellow Flowers**---tiny, but clustered

**Spring parsley, Wild celery**

APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT  
 | | | | | | | |

**Herb**---to 3 inches, low plant with pink flower stalks. **Leaves:** deep green and very shiny. **Flowers:** clustered in umbrella-like structures at the ends of stems. **Fruits:** pinkish, winged, and papery. **Distribution:** scattered. **Remarks:** Native Americans ate the leaves as a vegetable or sprinkled them in other foods as a seasoning.

APIACEAE Parsley family (*Cymopterus acaulis*, var. *fendleri*)



Yellow---tiny, but in large clusters

**Bur ragweed**



**Herb**---to 3 feet, very weedy appearance, much branched, with greenish yellow stems. **Leaves:** green, alternate. Lower leaves are deeply cleft and upper ones are long and narrow. **Flowers:** numerous, and found along long stems at the top of branches.

**Fruits:** tiny, covered with spines, burlike, pinkish or black or pale brown. **Distribution:** near roads. **Remarks:** the pollen from this plant and related species provokes hay fever in many people.

ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Ambrosia acanthicarpa*)



Yellow Flowers---tiny



**Bigelow sage**

**Shrub**---to 2 1/2 feet, with many branches. Smell the fragrant foliage. **Leaves:** blue-gray-green, many narrow, some deeply lobed. **Flowers:** blooming along ends of stems. **Distribution:** along arroyos. **Remarks:** Native Americans brewed a medicinal tea from the leaves. The sage brushes are very bitter tasting and browsing animals tend to avoid them.

ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Artemisia bigelovii*)



Yellowish (inconspicuous)---tiny

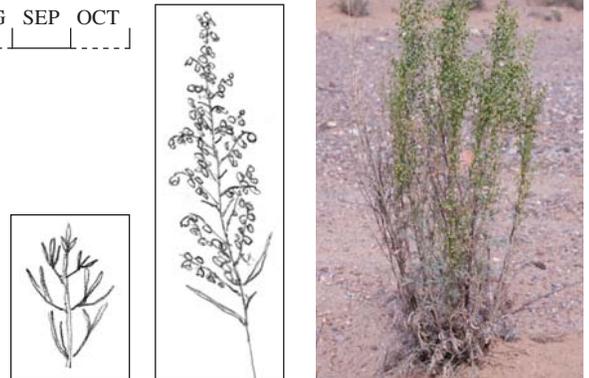
**Tarragon**



**Herb**---to 2 feet, many erect often reddish stems from base. Numerous, brown, dead stems can persist on plant through much of the next year. **Leaves:** some green and some blue, some long and narrow, and some deeply (fingerlike) lobed--especially near the base. **Flowers:** numerous, with yellow and white parts, borne all along upper stems, like little bells on drooping slender branches.

**Fruits:** greenish yellow. **Distribution:** often found near arroyos. **Remarks:** the herb, tarragon, is derived from a separate variety of this species, originating in Russia.

ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Artemisia dracunculus*)



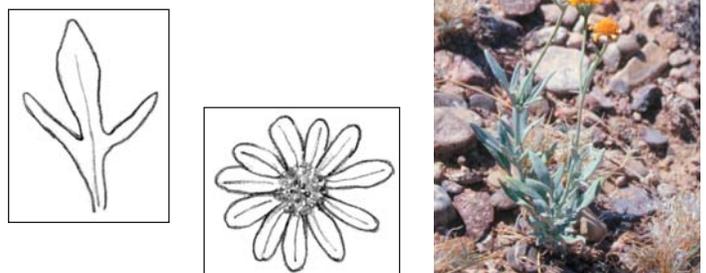
Yellow Flowers---1 inch

**Sageleaf bahia**



**Herb**---to 1 foot, one or several stems from base. **Leaves:** 3-lobed and gray-blue. They look like sandpaper but feel soft. **Flowers:** can have 15 rays, borne at the tops of stems. **Distribution:** scattered throughout. **Remarks:** can be confused with Desert marigold. Notice fewer rays on Sageleaf bahia, with rays all in one layer. This also can be confused with Ragleaf bahia. Notice the blue leaves and shorter plant size on Sageleaf bahia.

ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Bahia absinthifolia*)



Yellow Flowers---1 inch

Ragleaf bahia



**Herb**---to 3 feet tall, usually one hairy stem from base, branched. **Leaves:** green, deeply lobed, and divided again into deeply lobed sections. Most leaves are found along the lower part of stem. The top leaves are much reduced and almost linear. **Flowers:** approx. 10 yellow rays with a gold center, borne near the top of the plant. **Distribution:** uncommon and scattered, often near roads or parking. **Remarks:** can be confused with Sageleaf bahia---Ragleaf bahia is a taller plant with greener leaves.

ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Bahia dissecta*)



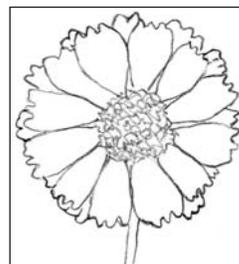
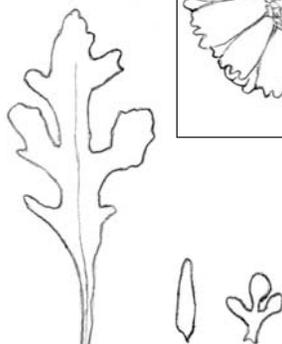
Yellow Flowers---large, to 1 ¼ inch

Desert marigold



**Herb**---to 1 ½ feet, stems branching at the base, white woolly, very hairy. **Leaves:** bluish, lower ones large and deeply cleft. Upper leaves are narrow and almost linear. **Flowers:** showy, wide overlapping rays, each flower borne singly on a separate longish stem. **Distribution:** widespread. **Remarks:** can be confused with Sageleaf bahia. Notice the layers of rays on Desert marigold, the hairy stems, and the variable shaped leaf.

ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Baileya multiradiata*)

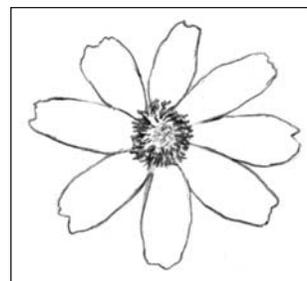
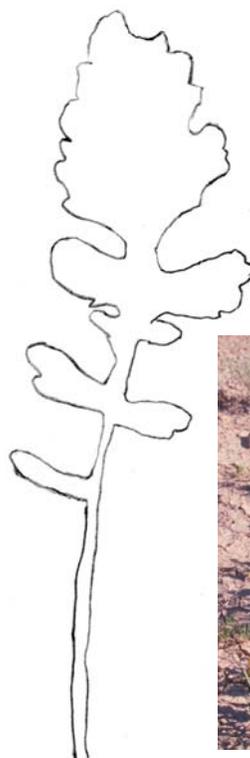


Yellow multicolored Flowers---large, to 1 ½ inch

Chocolate flower, Greeneyes

**Herb**---to 1½ feet, often many stems, branching at base. **Leaves:** large and deeply cleft, edges toothed. Most leaves are found near the ground. **Flowers:** showy, multicolored. The center is green first, and later maroon. The rays are yellow. After blooming green scalloped-edged buttons remain. **Distribution:** widespread.

**Remarks:** this flower smells distinctly like chocolate  
ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Berlandiera lyrata*)



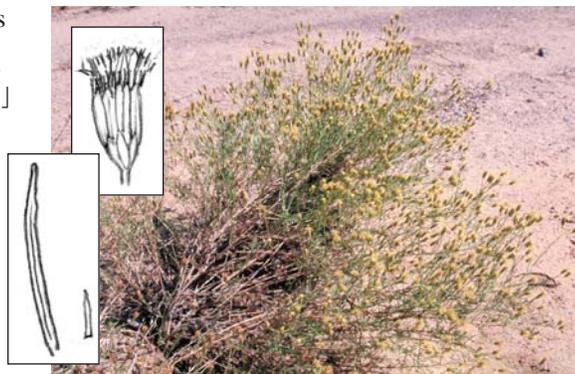
**Yellow-Cream Flowers**---individually small, but found in clustered heads

**False boneset**



**Shrublike**---to 3 feet, much branched. New stems are pale green.  
**Leaves:** green, narrow, alternate. Most are very short, but a few are much longer. **Flowers:** numerous. **Fruits:** white tufted balls of feathery hairs.  
**Distribution:** widely scattered, often found near arroyos. **Remarks:** True boneset is a medicinal herb derived from a plant in the genus *Eupatorium*.

This plant only superficially resembles it.  
 ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Brickellia eupatorioides*)  
 syn. *Kuhnia chlorolepis* or *K. eupatorioides*



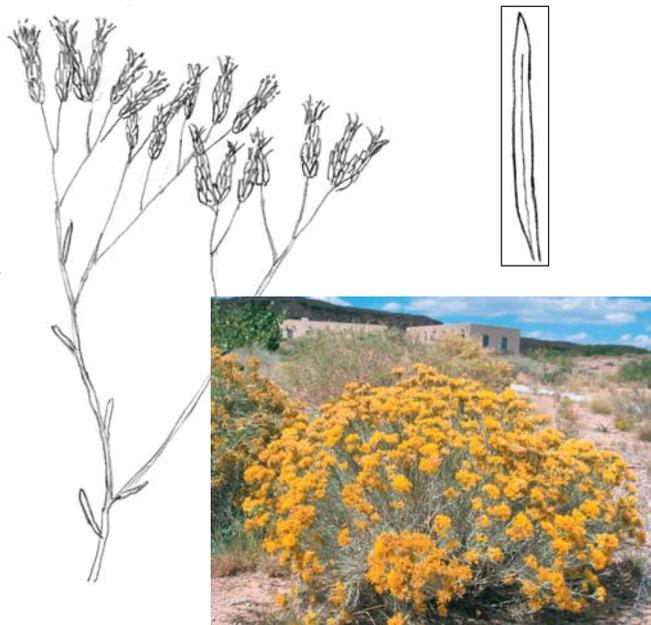
**Yellow Flowers**---individually small, but found in clusters

**Rubber rabbitbrush, Chamisa**



**Shrub**---to 5 feet, many branches from base, with peeling bark. Stems become green early in spring before leaves appear, later in year very bluish and striped with brown. Smaller twigs are often yellow-green. **Leaves:** gray-green-blue, and hairy. **Flowers:** showy gold, clustered. **Fruits:** cover plant with bunches of gold-white hairs. **Distribution:** arroyos and near buildings. **Remarks:** wildlife browse this plant. Native Americans boiled the flowers to produce a yellow dye. The rather “rubbery” flexible branches were made into baskets. The leaves were used in medicinal tea.

ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Chrysothamnus nauseosus*)



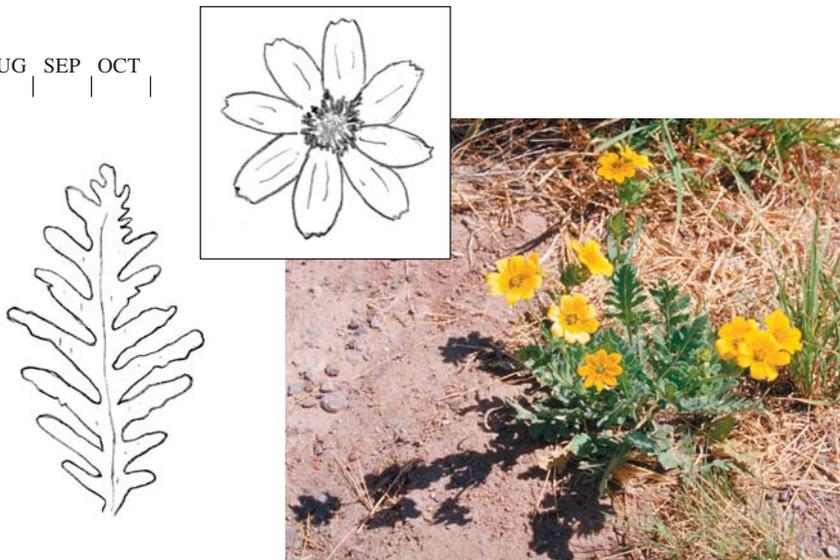
**Yellow Flowers**---1 to 1 ¼ inch

**Engelmann’s daisy**



**Herb**---to 1 foot, one or several stems from base, branched. **Leaves:** large, 3 inches long, very deeply lobed and indented (like an oak leaf), very hairy. **Flowers:** with approximately 8 rays, found at ends of stems. **Fruits:** brown-orange seed heads. **Distribution:** rare, at entrance along road. **Remarks:** the genus is named after a German-American botanist of the 1800s. His efforts in St. Louis led to the establishment of the Missouri Botanical Garden, one of the best in the world.

ASTERACEAE Composite family  
 (*Engelmannia pinnatifida*)



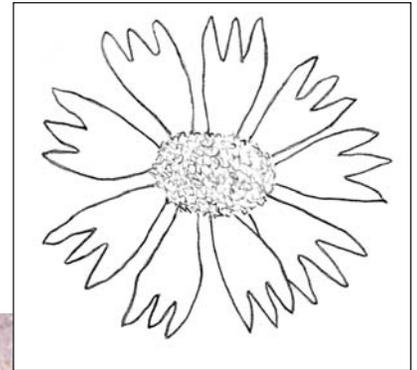
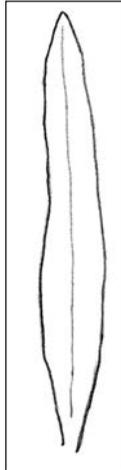
**Yellow and Maroon Flowers**---large, to 2 inches

**Indian blanket, Firewheel**



**Herb**---to 1 foot, one to many pinkish or pale stems from the base of plant. **Leaves:** alternate, oblong, hairy, with smaller leaves higher on stems. **Flowers:** showy, multicolored, yellow at the tips, with pink (purple or red) at the base. The rays are deeply cleft into three lobes. The center of the flower is yellow. **Fruits:** composed of large yellow-green balls with orange at ends of hollow tubes. **Distribution:** especially near roads or arroyos.

ASTERACEAE Composite family  
(*Gaillardia puchella*)



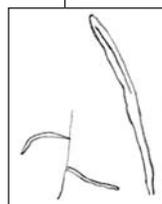
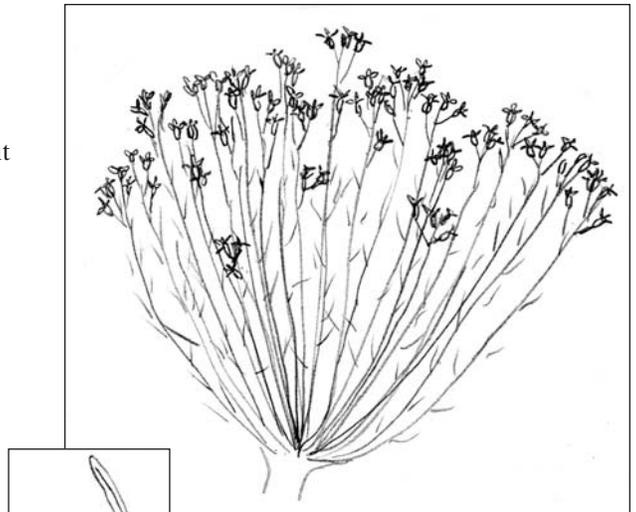
**Yellow Flowers**--- small, to ¼ inch in diameter, and clustered

**Broom snakeweed**



**Shrublet**---to 1 ½ feet, rounded, with many green branches. It can dominate the landscape in fall. **Leaves:** narrow, small, alternate, and yellow-green. **Flowers:** numerous, yellow with a yellow center, 5 rays. The flowers can cover the top of the plant. **Fruits:** individually small, yellow-green-brown. **Distribution:** everywhere. **Remarks:** it is commonly found in overgrazed pasture, and is toxic to livestock.

ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Gutierrezia sarothrae*)

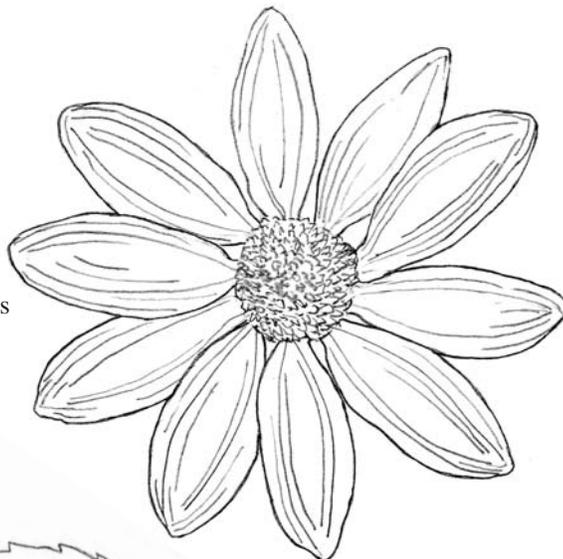


Yellow Flowers---large, to 2 ½ inches

**Prairie sunflower**



**Herb**---tall, rough, with long hairy stalks, can be branched. **Leaves:** large, coarse, oblong or triangular. **Flowers:** yellow rays with purplish centers. **Fruits:** large, black, hard seeds. **Distribution:** disturbed ground. **Remarks:** the blooming flower turns with the sun. People and wildlife have long relished the very edible seeds of this and related species. Varieties are grown commercially today in the Western United States.  
 ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Helianthus petiolaris*)

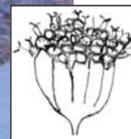


Yellow Flowers---small to medium heads

**White ragweed,  
 Fineleaf woolly white**



**Herb**---to 1 ½ feet, one to several erect, pale, hairy stems. This smells like honey. **Leaves:** very dissected, white hairy. **Flowers:** round heads (often several together) with no ray flowers, on stalks at the top of plant. When you look down upon the flower there is the appearance of many small tubes. **Fruits:** a round wheel of tiny, narrow, brownish tubes. **Distribution:** scattered.  
 ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Hymenopappus filifolius*)

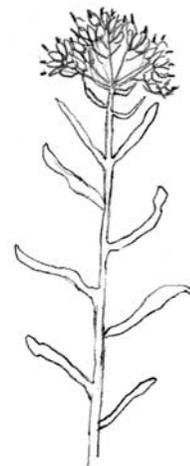


Yellow Flowers--- small, ½ inch and found in large clusters

**Jimmyweed**

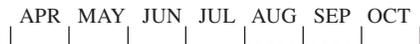


**Shrub**---to 2 ½ feet, many tall pale stems from base. **Leaves:** narrow, very green, numerous, longish. **Flowers:** gold, showy, in clusters at the tops of stems. The plant parts right below the flower are shaped as a flaring tube of overlapping rows of scales. **Fruits:** masses of tawny and fluffy balls of hairs. **Distribution:** near buildings, and along roads and arroyos. **Remarks:** it is poisonous to livestock. This plant could be confused with a Rabbitbrush, see page 13.  
 ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Isocoma pluriflora*)  
 syn. *Haplopappus heterophyllus*



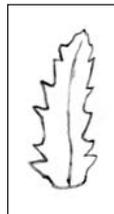
**Yellow and White Flowers---**tiny, inconspicuous

**Coulter's horseweed**



**Herb---**to 3 feet tall, usually one stem from base, moist to the touch, and sometimes branched. **Leaves:** green, serrated, hugging the stem. **Flowers:** tiny, with no rays, borne along the tops of stems. **Distribution:** very uncommon, found in low areas at this site.

ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Laennecia coulteri*)  
syn. *Conyza coulteri*



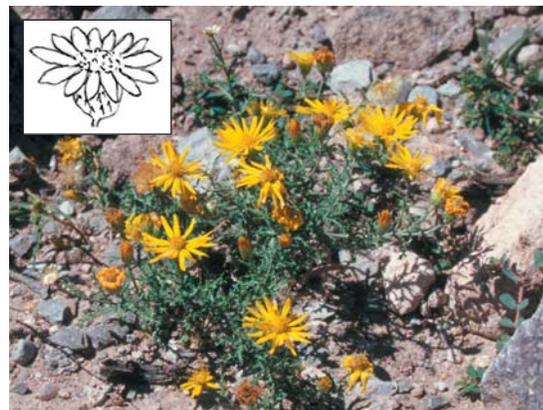
**Yellow Flowers---**medium, to 1/2 inch

**Goldenweed**



**Herb---**to 1 foot, multiple, pale, spreading stems from base, much branched. **Leaves:** alternate, lower leaves are deeply cleft or toothed, upper leaves are smaller and often narrower with soft tiny spines at edges. **Flowers:** many narrow, pointed, yellow rays with a yellow center. A single plant can bloom almost continuously from spring to frost, with many flowers and fruit present together. **Fruits:** tawny tufted balls of bristly hairs.

**Distribution:** very common.  
ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Machaeranthera pinnatifida*)  
syn. *Happlopappus spinulosus*



**Yellow Flowers---**1 inch

**Desert dandelion**



**Herb---**to 6 inches, several stems from base. **Leaves:** nearly all at base of plant, margins deeply notched and indented. **Flowers:** bright yellow, looks like the familiar garden weed. **Distribution:** in sand, widely scattered. **Remarks:** This native plant is not from the same genus as the introduced invasive weed, Dandelion, common to our gardens and lawns.

ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Malacothrix fendleri*)



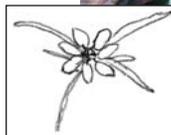
**Yellow Flowers---**small, to 1/4 inch + across

**Lemonweed**



**Herb---**to 3 inches, a very small plant at this site, with often only one stem from the base. **Leaves:** grasslike, narrow, and green, with a prominent vein down the center. **Flowers:** yellow, with approximately 8 rays. **Distribution:** near buildings. **Remarks:** the foliage is distinctively lemon-scented, and has been used to flavor tea.

ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Pectis angustifolia*)



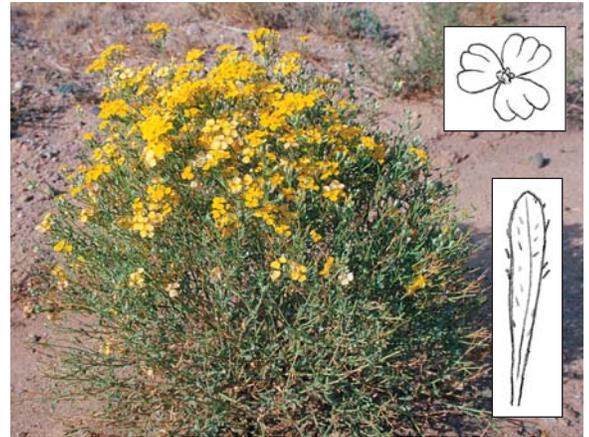
**Yellow Flowers**---medium, to nearly ½ inch

**Paper daisy**

APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT

**Herb**---to 1 foot, with several to many stems from the base of the plant, branched. **Leaves:** alternate, oblong, and hairy. Leaves near the ground are larger and can have “thumbs”. **Flowers:** yellow with yellow centers, dense and numerous over top of plant. Each flower has 3 (or 4) wide rays, each notched at the tip twice. The flowers fade with age and become papery, persisting on the plant for many weeks after bloom. **Distribution:** scattered throughout. **Remarks:** this plant, like many in the desert, has a dense covering of hairs which helps it to reduce the loss of moisture.

ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Psilostrophe tagetina*)



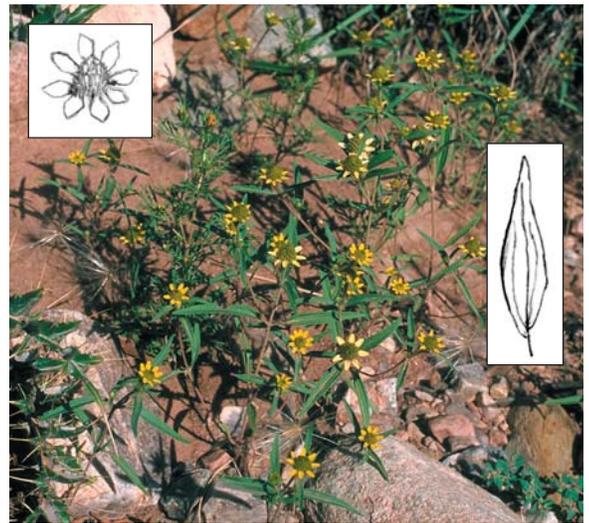
**Yellow Flowers**---medium, to ½ inch

**Abert's dome,  
Abert's creeping zinnia**

APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT

**Herb**---to 6 inches high. **Leaves:** green and opposite. **Flowers:** with short yellow “buttercup-shiny” petals and a protruding green cone-head center. **Distribution:** very uncommon, near buildings at this site. **Remarks:** James W. Abert was a mid 19th century explorer of the American southwest.

ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Sanvitalia abertii*)



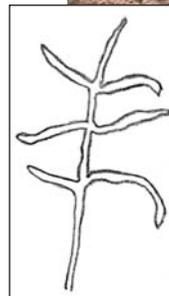
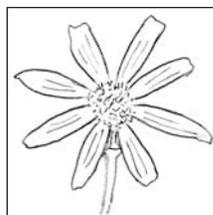
**Yellow Flowers**---large, to 1 inch

**Threadleaf groundsel**

APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT

**Herb**---to 2 feet +, many leafy gray stems from base. **Leaves:** gray-green, deeply dissected into narrow segments, thick. **Flowers:** rarely more than 8 yellow rays with a gold center, borne on stalks at the ends of stems. **Fruits:** white fluff balls (like dandelion), each seed with a white parachute of long hairs. **Distribution:** scattered, especially along roads. **Remarks:** *Senecio* is one of the largest genera of plants in the world, with over 2000 species.

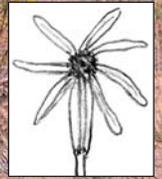
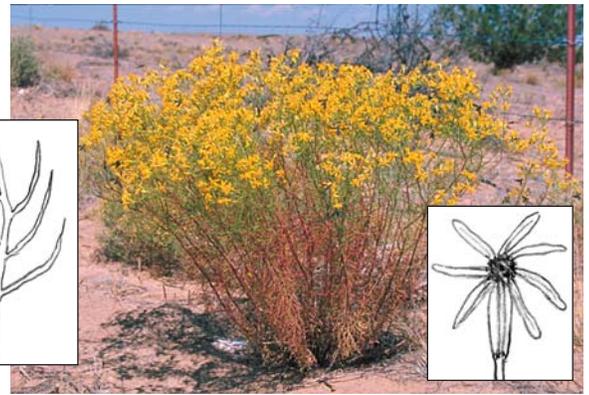
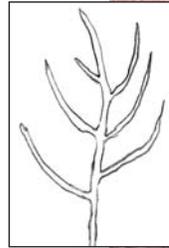
ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Senecio flaccidus*)  
syn. *S. longilobus* or *S. douglasii*



**Yellow Flowers**---large, to 1 inch

**Many-headed groundsel**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |

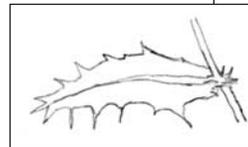
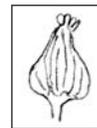
**Herb**---to 3 feet tall, many leafy green stems from base.  
**Leaves:** green and deeply dissected. **Flowers:** no more than 8 ragged yellow rays with a yellow center. **Fruits:** very white, dandelion-like fluff on little parachutes. **Distribution:** scattered throughout. **Remarks:** this plant can be confused with the previous groundsel. Notice the green leaves on *S. spartioides* and the gray leaves on *S. flaccidus*  
 ASTERACEAE    Composite family  
 (*Senecio spartioides* var. *multicapitatus*)    syn. *S. multicapitatus*



**Yellow Flowers**---to 1/2 inch heads, but much longer

**Sow thistle**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |     |     |     |     |     |     |

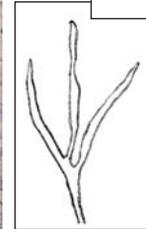
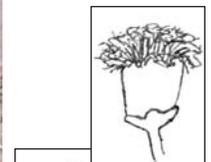
**Herb**---4 inches to 2 feet, very weedy in appearance, one stem from base, branched, containing a milky juice. **Leaves:** large, indented, toothed, leathery, each leaf blade clasping the stem. **Flowers:** vase-shaped heads, found singly or in small groups near ends of stems. Often the flowers are not open broadly. **Fruits:** white fluffy tuft, poking out of a vaselike structure. The seed is attached to a silky parachute. **Distribution:** disturbed ground.  
 ASTERACEAE    Composite family    (*Sonchus asper*)  
 introduced from Europe



**Yellow Flowers**---medium heads, to 1/2 inch

**Greenthread, Indian tea, Cota**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |     |     |     |     |     |     |

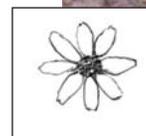
**Herb**---to 2 feet, one or several erect slender stems, branched, bluish-green. **Leaves:** not numerous, very narrow, stiff, some divided fingerlike. **Flowers:** gold, no rays, vase-shaped with a spreading top, borne singly at the ends of long stems. **Fruits:** gold tuft protruding from a yellowish brown vase-shaped structure. **Distribution:** scattered throughout. **Remarks:** the stems and leaves of this plant have been widely used to make what is reported to be an excellent tasting tea.  
 ASTERACEAE    Composite family    (*Thelesperma megapotamicum*)



**Yellow Flowers**---small, to 1/2 inch

**Spiny dogweed**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |     |     |     |     |     |     |

**Herb**---to 1 foot, woody at base, with many branched gray stems, strongly scented. **Leaves:** needle-shaped and numerous. **Flowers:** yellow rays with golden centers, borne at the top of stems. **Fruits:** tiny tawny (or orange) brushes. **Distribution:** often found on hills.  
 ASTERACEAE    Composite family    (*Thymophylla acerosa*)  
 syn. *Dyssodia acerosa*

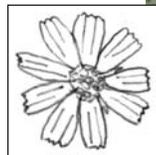
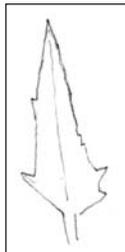


**Yellow Flowers**---variable, to 1 ½ inch

**Cowpen daisy**

APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT  
 | | | | | | |

**Herb**---6 inches to 2 feet, usually one pale green or blue-green stem from base, sometimes branched. **Leaves:** blue-green, with toothed edges. The lower ones are somewhat triangular, upper leaves are reduced in size and simplified in shape. **Flowers:** showy, approx. 8-12 rays with a large gold center, borne at the ends of stems. **Distribution:** low ground.  
 ASTERACEAE Composite family  
 (*Verbesina encelioides*)

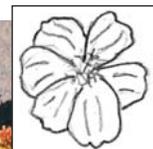
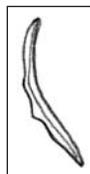


**Yellow Flowers**---medium, to ¾ inch

**Rocky Mountain zinnia,**

APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT  
 | | | | | | |

**Herb**---to 5 inches, many pale stems from base, branched. **Leaves:** very small, narrow, opposite. **Flowers:** showy, 5 petals, yellow with a gold center, borne at the top of stems. Papery dried flowers persist long after the bloom is finished. **Fruits:** orange-brown. **Distribution:** scattered. **Remarks:** this species does not closely resemble cultivated zinnias.  
 ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Zinnia grandiflora*)

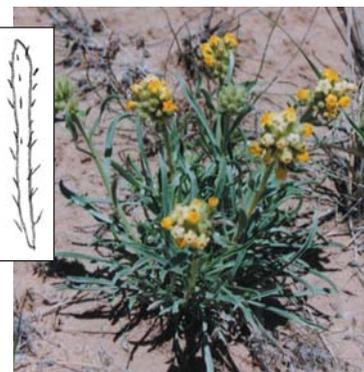
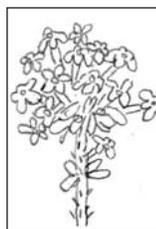


**Yellow Flowers**---small, to ¼ inch, but in a rounded cluster

**Puccoon**

APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT  
 [ ] | | | | | | |

**Herb**---to 8 inches, many hairy stems from base. **Leaves:** silvery hairy blue. **Flowers:** 5 petals bent back towards the stalk, flowers clustered, borne at the top of stems. **Distribution:** present at this site only after a rainy winter, very uncommon and scattered. **Remarks:** Native Americans boiled the roots to make a purple dye. They used a poultice of leaves to treat skin rash, and drank a tea to treat sore throat. *Puccoon* is a Native American name for this genus.  
 BORAGINACEAE Borage family (*Lithospermum incisum*)

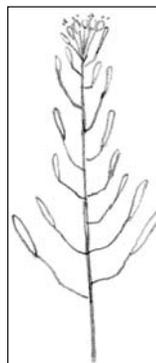


**Yellow Flowers**---tiny, in clusters

**Tansy mustard**

APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT  
 | | | | | | |

**Herb**---to 2 feet, weedy, usually one stem from base, branched. **Leaves:** deeply indented and lobed. **Flowers:** borne near tops of the stems, with seeds developing lower on plant. **Fruits:** short pods. **Distribution:** in disturbed soil, often near buildings or roads. **Remarks:** Native Americans ground the seeds into meal or added to soup, or even used them to create pottery paint. They cooked the youngest leaves as a potherb.  
 BRASSICACEAE Mustard family (*Descurainia obtusa*)



**Yellow Flowers**---medium, to ½ inch

**Fendler's bladderpod**



**Herb**---to 9 inches. **Leaves:** alternate, bluish-green, narrow. Some leaves hug the stems. **Flowers:** 4 petals, yellow-gold, found on nearly leafless stalks near the top of stems. **Fruits:** smooth, small, pearly oval balls, greenish pink fading to pale yellow. **Distribution:** common throughout area. **Remarks:** cattle and deer browse this plant. Its name refers to Augustus Fendler who collected many plants in New Mexico in the 1840s.

BRASSICACEAE Mustard family (*Lesquerella fendleri*)



**Yellow Flowers**---small to medium

**Yellow twistflower**



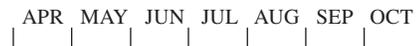
**Herb**---to 6 inches+ at this site, larger elsewhere, usually one pale stem from base. **Leaves:** blue-green (small arrowhead) clasping stem. **Flowers:** borne near the top of plant, very distinctively shaped with the petals curving sharply down towards the stem. **Fruits:** long pods. **Distribution:** very uncommon at this site.

BRASSICACEAE Mustard family (*Streptanthus carinatus*)



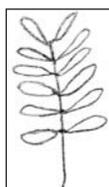
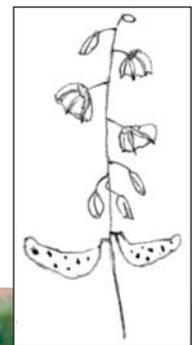
**Yellow-Orange Flowers**---small, to ¼ inch

**James' holdback**



**Herb**---to 2 feet, several pale stems from base, branched (often with orange or green speckles). **Leaves:** each approx. 10-16 leaflets. Look at underside of leaves for black dots (glands). **Flowers:** yellow drooping bells blooming along stalks. **Fruits:** green pods, broadly crescent-shaped with tiny dark spots. **Distribution:** scattered.

CAESALPINIACEAE  
Caesalpinia family  
(*Caesalpinia jamesii*)  
syns. *Pomaria jamesii*, *Hoffmanseggia jamesii*

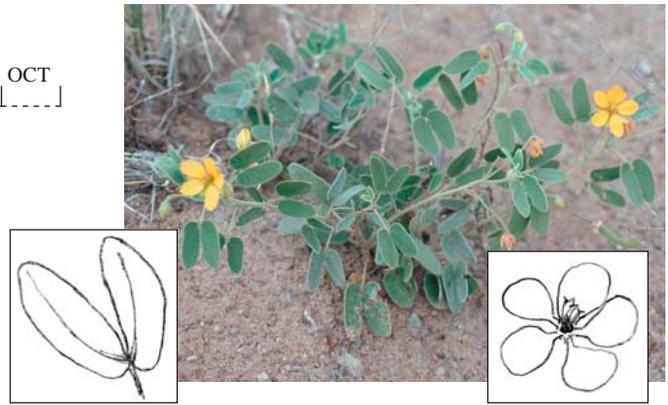


**Yellow-Orange Flowers---to 1/2 inch**

**Twinleaf senna**

APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT  
 | | | | | | | |  
 | | | | | | | |

**Herb---**to 6 inches, spreading and hairy. **Leaves:** divided into “twin” opposite leaflets. **Flowers:** found in pairs at ends of small branches, 5 yellow-orange petals. The petals quickly close up when exposed to direct sun. **Fruits:** curved, yellow-brown, hairy pods which split open lengthwise into halves. **Distribution:** scattered. **Remarks:** Senna is a name used for a group of medicinal drugs produced from related species. CAESALPINIACEAE Caesalpinia family (*Senna bauhinioides*) syn. *Cassia bauhinioides*

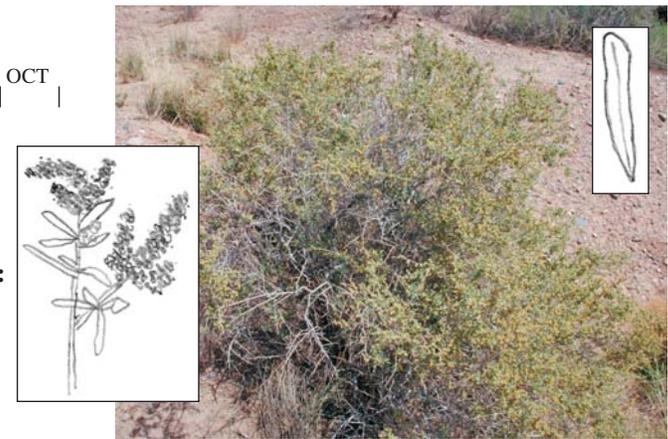


**Yellow Flowers---tiny, but in large clusters**

**Fourwing saltbush**

APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT  
 | | | | | | | |  
 | | | | | | | |

**Shrub---**to 4 feet, scruffy, separate male and female plants, many gray branches. **Leaves:** greenish gray, narrow, persisting on the plant all winter. **Flowers:** yellow or green (or pink) blooming along branches in clusters. **Fruits:** very distinctive, papery and 4-winged, at first light-green, then drying to yellow. **Distribution:** very common. **Remarks:** this plant is nutritious. It is widely foraged by wildlife and cattle. Native Americans ground and ate the seeds as a cereal. They also ate the youngest leaves. Burned ashes were used as a leavening to cause bread to rise. CHENOPODIACEAE Goosefoot family (*Atriplex canescens*)

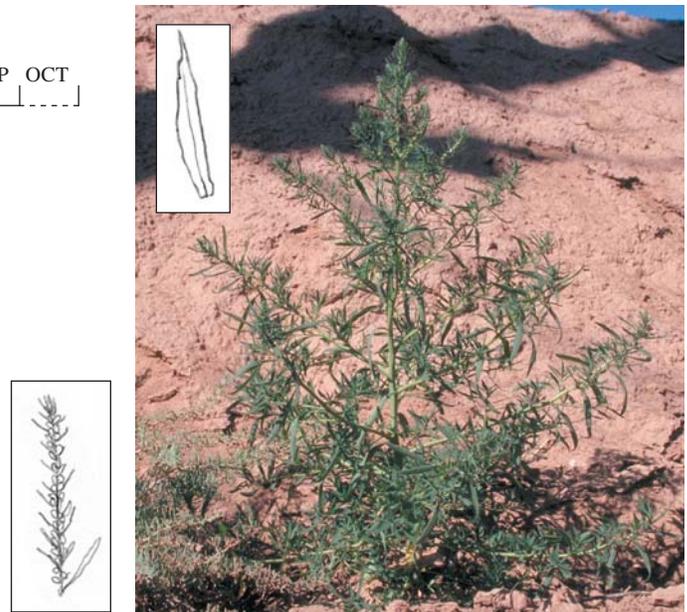


**Yellow Flowers---tiny, inconspicuous**

**Kochia, Summer cypress**

APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT  
 | | | | | | | |  
 | | | | | | | |

**Herb---**to 4 feet, very weedy appearance, with thick pale green and pink stems, much branched. **Leaves:** green, long and narrow, hairy, alternate. **Flowers:** yellow-green, hairy, borne along spikes at ends of branches, no petals. **Fruits:** tiny, yellowish, along stems and branches. **Distribution:** near roads and in disturbed ground. CHENOPODIACEAE Goosefoot family (*Kochia scoparia*) introduced from Eurasia

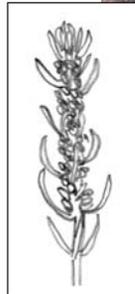
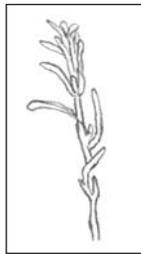


**Inconspicuous Flowers**---tiny, inconspicuous

**Winterfat**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |     |     |     |     |     |     |  
 [-----]

**Shrub**---to 3 feet, woody, dark at base, newest stems pale. **Leaves:** bluish gray, very fuzzy hairy, soft, bunched near the top of plant. Leaves become dry but persist most of the winter. **Flowers:** found in tiny clusters near ends of branches. **Fruits:** showy white clumps of hairs (like cotton) along tops of stems. **Distribution:** scattered. **Remarks:** name of the genus honors a Russian botanist of the 1700s. It is a good winter forage plant for livestock.

CHENOPODIACEAE    Goosefoot family  
 (*Krascheninnikovia lanata*)  
 syn. *Eurotia lanata* or *Ceratoides lanata*

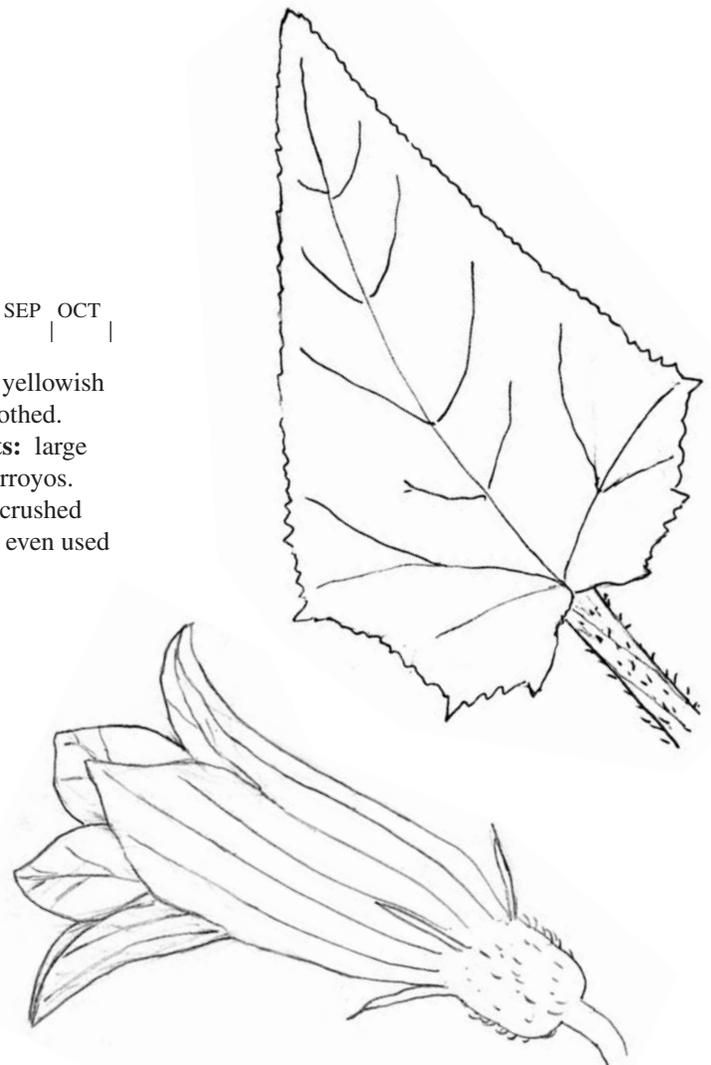


**Yellow Flowers**---giant

**Buffalo gourd**                      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |     |     |     |     |     |     |  
 [-----]

**Vine**---large, coarse (like sandpaper), sprawling, strong odor, yellowish stems. **Leaves:** very large, bluish, arrowhead-shaped, and toothed. **Flowers:** showy, very large, trumpetlike, with 5 lobes. **Fruits:** large round gourds, green with white stripes. **Distribution:** near arroyos. **Remarks:** Native Americans ate the seeds and flowers. The crushed fruit was used as an insect repellent in the home or garden, or even used as a kind of soap.

CUCURBITACEAE    Gourd family    (*Cucurbita foetidissima*)



**Yellow Flowerlike structures---tiny**

**Jointfir, Mormon tea**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |      |      |      |      |      |      |

**Shrublet---**to 2 feet, like a skeleton, much branched, slender jointed stems, separate male and female plants. **Leaves:** reduced to tiny scales. **Flowers:** this is a gymnosperm and there are no true flowers, but there are very small yellow flowerlike structures borne on yellow or greenish brown cones. **Fruits:** tiny cones. **Distribution:** widespread. **Remarks:** It is reported that one can chew on these stems and receive a pick-me-up with an effect rather like coffee. The medical drug ephedrine is derived from a related Old World species.

EPHEDRACEAE    Ephedra family    (*Ephedra torreyana*)

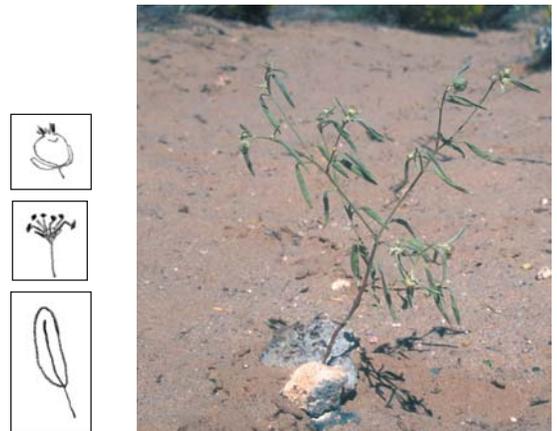


**Yellow-Green Flowers---tiny**

**Doveweed**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |      |      |      |      |      |      |

**Herb---**to 1 foot, usually one gray-green or sometimes peach colored stem from base, branched. Each plant is male or female. **Leaves:** gray-green, longish, alternate. **Flowers:** tiny, with no petals, borne in clusters at the ends of stems. **Distribution:** low ground. **Remarks:** doves, quail, and other wildlife feed on the seeds. Many peoples have made medicinal tea from the leaves to treat stomach and body aches. Dried bundles can be placed beneath bedding as an insecticide.

EUPHORBIACEAE    Euphorbia family    (*Croton texensis*)



**Yellow Flowers---small, to 1/4 inch, in a larger cluster**

**Dwarf golden dalea**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |      |      |      |      |      |      |

**Herb---**to 8 inches, branched at the base, creeping stems. **Leaves:** each divided into 5 hairy leaflets. **Flowers:** dense heads, on short stalks. **Fruits:** short, featherlike, with white and red plumes. **Distribution:** scattered. **Remarks:** the genus is named for Samuel Dale an 18th century English botanist (apothecary and physician) who never visited the Americas but received specimens from naturalist collectors in the early 1700s.

FABACEAE    Legume family    (*Dalea nana*)

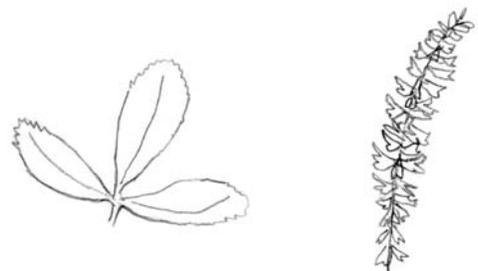


**Yellow Flowers---tiny, in large clusters**

**Yellow sweetclover**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |      |      |      |      |      |      |

**Herb---**to 5 feet, branched. The stems are green striped with red. **Leaves:** divided into 3 leaflets. The edges are very slightly toothed. **Flowers:** grouped on longish flower stalks. **Distribution:** near road at entrance. **Remarks:** bees are attracted to this plant. It looks superficially just like *Melilotus albus* (White sweetclover) except for the color of the flower.

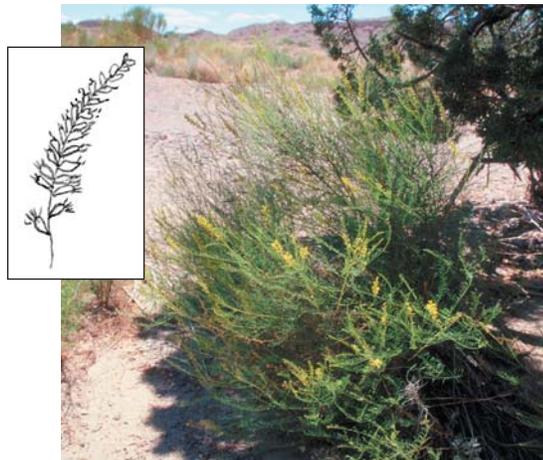
FABACEAE    Legume family    (*Melilotus officinalis*)  
 introduced from Eurasia



**Yellow Flowers**---tiny, in long clusters

**Dune broom**                    APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |

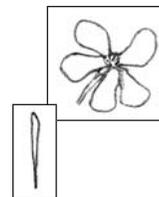
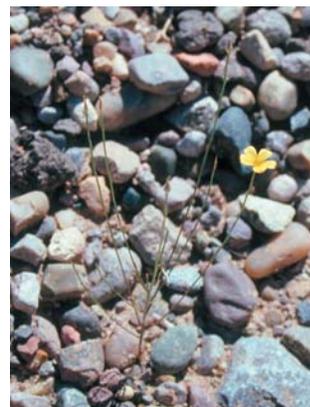
**Shrub**---to 2 ½ feet, but often much smaller, aromatic, woody, and gray at the base, many reddish branches, with the youngest twigs yellow-green. **Leaves:** long, compound, and lacy. **Flowers:** no petals. Yellow and green flowers are found along the stems near the top of plant. **Fruits:** small yellow-green pods. **Distribution:** arroyos. **Remarks:** Native Americans used the branches to make baskets and house brooms.  
 FABACEAE    Legume family    (*Parryella filifolia*)



**Yellow Flowers**---medium, to ½ inch

**Southern yellow flax**        APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |

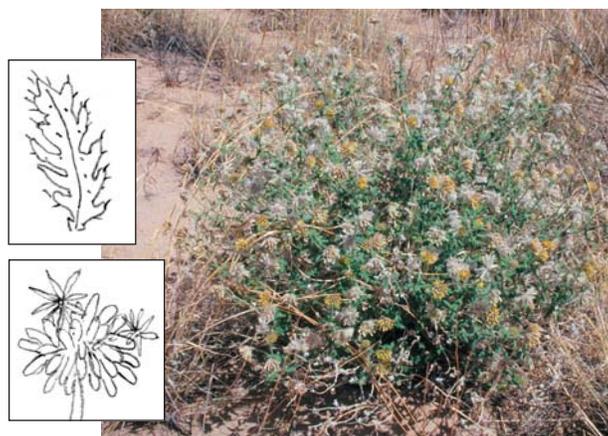
**Herb**---usually 6 inches (occasionally to 2 feet), usually one very slender stem from the base, branched. **Leaves:** narrow, very few. **Flowers:** often solitary at any one time, 5 petals, very fragile. The petals drop easily if handled and fall off the plant by the end of the day. **Distribution:** scattered throughout, especially near buildings. **Remarks:** related species, from Eurasia, are used to produce linseed oil and linen thread. A few plants of *Linum puberulum* (Plains flax) can be seen in the area. They have copper colored petals with a red center  
 LINACEAE    Flax family    (*Linum australe*)



**Yellow Flowers**---½ inch, in large globular clusters

**Stinging cevalia**            APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |

**Herb**---to 1 ½ feet, usually many pale, branched stems. **Leaves:** green, armed with stinging hairs, alternate, dissected, and strongly toothed. **Flowers:** star-shaped, borne at the end of stalks in dense, round, tubular clusters of orange-yellow buds. **Fruits:** silvery-pink (or yellow) “feathers”. **Distribution:** uncommon in this area along arroyos. **Remarks:** touch this plant and notice what happens. This character deters browsers.  
 LOASACEAE    Blazingstar family    (*Cevallia sinuata*)



**Yellow-White Flowers**---medium, to ¾ inch +

**Stickleaf, Blazingstar**        APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |

**Herb**---to 1 foot, whitish stems (sometimes peeling orange), much branched. **Leaves:** barbed hairs, clinging, rough like sandpaper, alternate, deeply indented. **Flowers:** closed and white in color during much of the day, opening yellow in late afternoon. Several flower parts look like many pointed petals. **Fruits:** long, sticky, light-green, tubular capsules. **Distribution:** scattered throughout. **Remarks:** notice how sticky the mature leaves are. Native Americans used the seeds as a food seasoning.  
 LOASACEAE    Blazingstar family    (*Mentzelia multiflora*)

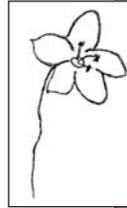


**Yellow Flowers**---medium, to ½ inch

**Rough menodora**

APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT  
 | | | | | | | | | |

**Herb**---to 1 foot, sometimes shrublike and woody at base, much branched, rough to the touch, hairy. The upper stems are green.  
**Leaves:** numerous, green, opposite. **Flowers:** with 5 petals, orange in bud. Lower parts of the flower are slightly funnel-shaped. The older flowers turn white. **Fruits:** small capsules.  
**Distribution:** not common, can be found near bottom of slopes.  
**Remarks:** much browsed by cattle and deer.  
 OLEACEAE Olive family (*Menodora scabra*)

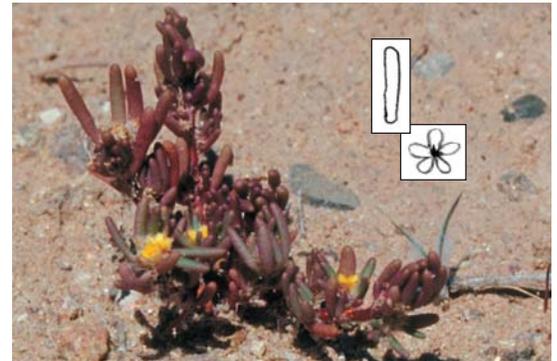


**Yellow Flowers**---small, to a little less than ¼ inch across

**Silkcotton purslane**

APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT  
 | | | | | | | | | |

**Herb**---to 2 inches, generally an upright plant, with succulent, pink, fleshy stems. **Leaves:** green, cylindrical in shape. **Flowers:** 5 petals.  
**Distribution:** low areas. **Remarks:** Native Americans and others, widely used this plant for food. They ate the nutritious stems and leaves, as well as the seeds.  
 PORTULACACEAE Portulaca family (*Portulaca halimoides*)  
 syn. *P. parvula*



**Yellow Flowers**---small, to ¼ inch across

**Garden or Common purslane**

APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT  
 | | | | | | | | | |

**Herb**---to 3 inches. This is a creeping plant with succulent, pink, fleshy stems. **Leaves:** oblong, opposite, green. **Flowers:** 5 petals.  
**Distribution:** low areas. **Remarks:** in many places this introduced species has nearly replaced the native one. Many peoples have used this plant for food.  
 PORTULACACEAE Portulaca family (*Portulaca oleracea*)  
 introduced from Eurasia

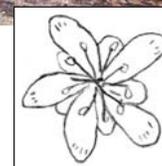
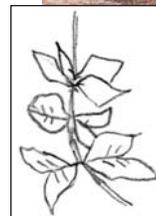
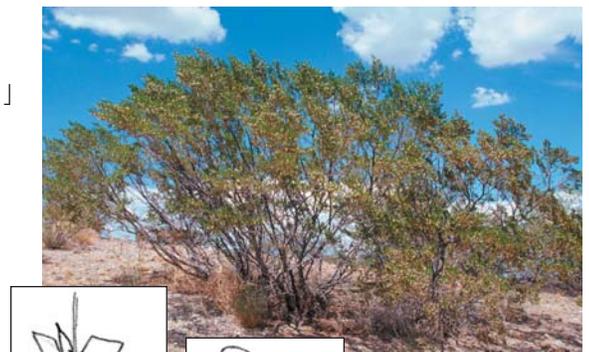


**Yellow Flowers**---medium, to nearly an inch

**Creosotebush**

APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT  
 | | | | | | | | | |

**Shrub**---to 6 feet, strong odor. By midsummer the plant has an orange cast because of many dried leaves. **Leaves:** shiny, yellow-green, divided into 2 leaflets (usually united at the base), evergreen. **Flowers:** 5 petals, borne along branches. **Fruits:** numerous, small, white, hairy balls. **Distribution:** scattered. **Remarks:** Creosotebush is a dominant plant in the southern desert from Texas to California. Its strong smell and taste protect it from browsing animals. Native Americans used the boiled leaves to treat sores, burns, and snake bite, or made a strong bitter tea as a general cure-all. A tiny scale insect living on the branches produces a glue, which was used to mend broken pottery, and to cement arrow points to wooden arrow shafts.  
 ZYGOPHYLLACEAE Caltrop family (*Larrea tridentata*)

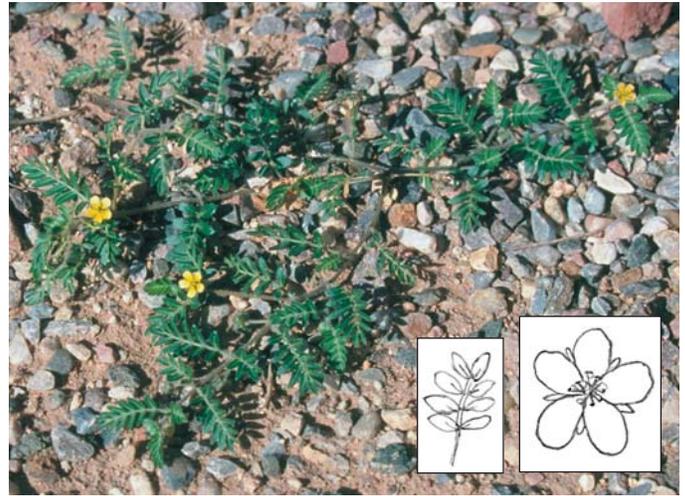


**Yellow Flowers**---small, to 1/8 inch

**Goathead,** APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT  
**Puncturevine** | | [-----] | |

**Creeping Herb**---sometimes forming a mat, with many peach-colored stems. Some can be several feet long. **Leaves:** opposite, hairy, divided into 8-14 leaflets. **Flowers:** 5 petals, yellow with a green center, borne individually along stems. **Fruits:** a sharp, spiny, hard nutlet. **Distribution:** disturbed ground and parking lots. **Remarks:** this plant looks a lot like Carpetweed (see Other-Colored Flower list). Goathead has a yellow flower, only slightly hairy stem, and Ouch! if you step on the fruit barefoot.

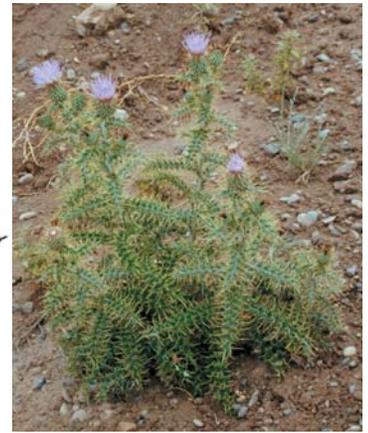
ZYGOPHYLLACEAE Caltrop family (*Tribulus terrestris*)  
 introduced from Eurasia



**Purple Flowers**---large, to 1 inch across, but even longer

**Yellowspine or Santa Fe thistle**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |     |     |     |     |     |     |

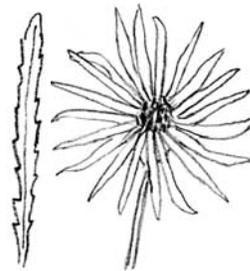
**Herb**---to 2 feet, with multiple, pale, spiny stems from base. **Leaves:** deeply indented to a center vein, very spiny. **Flowers:** pale purple, drying to light brown, looking like an old fashioned shaving brush, emerging from a puffy vase receptacle, covered with many yellowish spines. **Fruits:** large clusters of long pale hairs from the top of the spent flowers. **Distribution:** along roads or arroyos. **Remarks:** Native Americans cooked the leaves and stems as a vegetable.  
 ASTERACEAE    Composite family    (*Cirsium ochrocentrum*)



**Purple Flowers**---large, to 1 ½ inch

**Purple or Hoary aster**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |     |     |     |     |     |     |

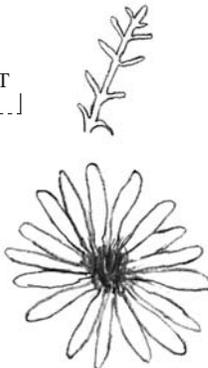
**Herb**---to 5 feet (but usually much shorter), woody at base. There is usually only one basal stem, branched at the top. **Leaves:** green, numerous, long, and narrow. The larger leaves are toothed. **Flowers:** many (to 30 or more) purple rays with a gold to brownish orange center, borne near the ends of stems. **Fruits:** tawny and tufted heads of bristly hairs. **Distribution:** scattered throughout the area. **Remarks:** *Machaeranthera* is very closely related to *Aster*.  
 ASTERACEAE    Composite family    (*Machaeranthera canescens*)



**Purple Flowers**---large, to 1 ½ inch

**Purple or Tansy aster**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |     |     |     |     |     |     |

**Herb**---to 1 foot, many pale stems from base, branched. **Leaves:** green, fernlike, small and very dissected, moist to the touch and a little sticky. **Flowers:** approx. 18 purple rays with a gold center, borne singly near ends of stems. **Distribution:** low areas and arroyos.  
 ASTERACEAE    Composite family    (*Machaeranthera tanacetifolia*)



**Rose-Pink Flowers**---large, to 1 ¼ inch

**Othake**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |     |     |     |     |     |     |

**Herb**---to 1 ½ feet, much branched stems with short hairs. **Leaves:** long alternate and blue-green. **Flowers:** showy pink with a pink center, 5 to 7 rays---each deeply lobed with three parts. Flowers are borne near the ends of branches. **Distribution:** scattered throughout. **Remarks:** the petals are distinctive.  
 ASTERACEAE  
 Composite family  
 (*Palafoxia sphacelata*)



**Maroon Red (and/or Yellow) Flowers**--- $\frac{1}{3}$  inch across, but much longer

**Mexican hat, Prairie coneflower** | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT |  
 | | | | | | | |

**Herb**---to 10 inches, with many green stems from base. **Leaves:** blue-green and deeply cut into narrow segments. **Flowers:** the inflorescence has a prominent fingerlike gray or reddish brown projection in the center. This is ringed with maroon or yellow (or some combination of both) rays which are reflexed (bent back down along stems). **Distribution:** uncommon in area, seen at edge of the parking lot. **Remarks:** this species is widely cultivated as a garden flower.

ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Ratibida columnifera*)



**Pink Flowers**---medium, to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch

**Skeletonweed, Wire lettuce** | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT |  
 | | | | | | | |

**Herb**---to 2 feet, with stiff, rigid, blue-green stems. **Leaves:** the lower ones are toothed and upper ones are very tiny and narrow. Some individuals have almost no leaves. **Flowers:** approx. 5-7 pink rays, many slightly notched at the tips. **Fruits:** tawny feathery hairs protrude from a vase-like structure.

**Distribution:** scattered throughout.

ASTERACEAE Composite family (*Stephanomeria pauciflora*)



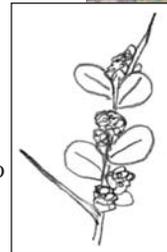
**Pink to Yellow Flowers**---tiny and inconspicuous

**Shadscale** | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT |  
 | | | | | | | |

**Shrub**---to 2 feet, many gray trunks from base, with the new twigs yellowish and sharply pointed.

**Leaves:** rounded, scaly, gray (or bluish with a little pink). **Flowers:** tiny, yellow, turning to pink, found at the base of leaves, along stems. There are separate male and female plants. **Fruits:** papery and 2-winged. **Distribution:** scattered mainly in the western part of this area. **Remarks:** Native Americans used the leaves to flavor food. They also ground the seeds to eat as a cereal.

CHENOPODIACEAE Goosefoot family (*Atriplex confertifolia*)

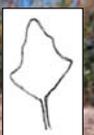


**Greenish (inconspicuous)**---tiny, but in larger clumps

**Goosefoot, Lambsquarters** | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT |  
 | | | | | | | |

**Herb**---6 inches to 2 feet, with many striped (green and pink) stems from base. **Leaves:** green, numerous, alternate. **Flowers:** green (with a little yellow and gray), mostly borne in clusters along tops of stems and branches. **Fruits:** mealy clumps of tiny green pods. **Distribution:** disturbed ground. **Remarks:** young leaves can be used in salad or cooked as a vegetable.

CHENOPODIACEAE Goosefoot family (*Chenopodium album*) introduced from Eurasia

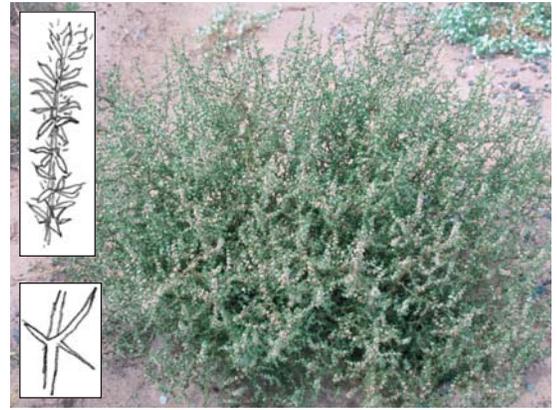


**Greenish-Pink Flowers**---small and inconspicuous

**Tumbleweed, Russian thistle**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |

**Herb**---to 2 ½ feet, very weedy, prickly, rounded, and bushy. It has a stout central stem, green in youth, then often reddish- or purple-striped as it matures. **Leaves:** in spring the first leaves are long, fleshy, and soft. Later they become very short, thick, and prickly. **Flowers:** greenish with pink. **Distribution:** along roads, in disturbed ground. **Remarks:** this symbol of the Old West is not native to the United States, but it has become common here. In winter the winds snap the stem and the plant skeleton tumbles across the land leaving some of its 200,000 seeds everywhere it passes.

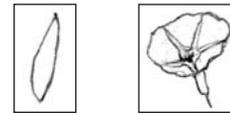
CHENOPODIACEAE    Goosefoot family    (*Salsola kali*)  
 syn. *Salsola iberica*    introduced from Russia



**Pink to Lavender Flowers**---medium, to ½ inch

**Hairy evolvulus**                      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 [.....]       |       [.....]       |

**Herb**---to 4 inches, with several hairy stems from base. **Leaves:** gray-green and hairy. **Flowers:** funnel-shaped, pink to lavender with a white “star” in the center, borne along the stems. **Distribution:** very uncommon, sometimes found on lower slopes. CONVOLVULACEAE    Morning glory family    (*Evolvulus nuttallianus*)



**Pink Flowers**---tiny

**Fendler’s spurge**                      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |       [.....]       |       [.....]       |

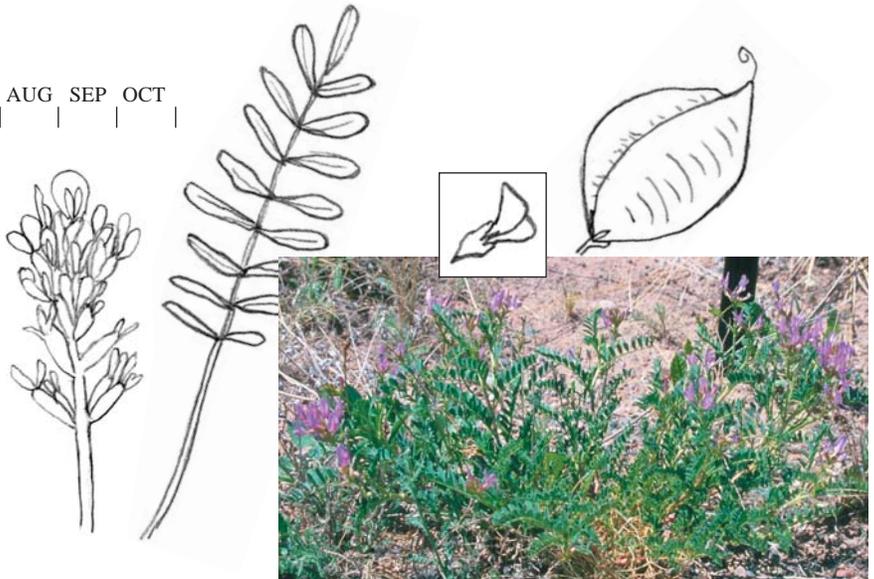
**Herb**---to 6 inches, but usually smaller with a weedy appearance. There are many pink or pale yellow stems from the base, branched, with milky juice. **Leaves:** green and often folded lengthwise. After flowering and fruiting, the leaves turn quite red. **Flowers:** very small, with several petallike structures, can be red or nearly white. **Distribution:** widely scattered throughout. EUPHORBIACEAE    Euphorbia family    (*Chamaesyce fendleri*)



**Pink Flowers**---medium, to ½ inch

**Halfmoon milkvetch**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 [.....]       |       |       |       |       |       |

**Herb**---to 9 inches, spreading, with many branches. The larger stems are pink, others are green. **Leaves:** compound, divided into 13 to 17 leaflets. **Flowers:** pink, fading to purple, irregularly shaped (pealike), and blooming along tops of stems. **Fruits:** large, longish, oval pods, beaked at the tip, at first green with reddish marks, becoming paler as they dry. **Distribution:** along entrance road. **Remarks:** many species of *Astragalus*, often called locoweed, are poisonous to livestock. FABACEAE    Legume family    (*Astragalus allochrous*)



**Rose-colored and Yellow**---small, to ¼ inch

**Indigobush, Feather dalea,**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |      |      |      |      |      |      |

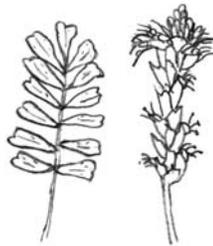
**Small Shrub**---to 2 feet, much branched. At the base the bark is dark gray, but many of the twigs are much lighter. **Leaves:** tiny and green. They are divided into 7-11 leaflets. **Flowers:** often numerous, formed pealike in shape, with feathery appendages. **Fruits:** very small, pale, feathery plumes. **Distribution:** scattered, especially on ridges. **Remarks:** this is a good browse shrub for livestock and wild animals. Native Americans used the bark to make dye for basketry. FABACEAE    Legume family    (*Dalea formosa*)



**Purple Flowers**---tiny, but in a larger spike

**Woolly dalea**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |      |      |      |      |      |      |

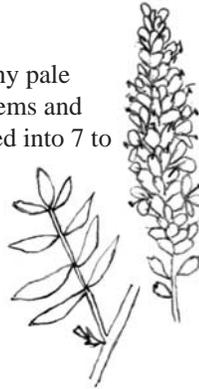
**Herb**---to 6 inches, creeping, sprawling. There are many stems and branches. **Leaves:** scented, often blue-green, divided into 7-13 leaflets. **Flowers:** formed pealike, in spikes, arising along the branches. **Fruits:** very small pods. **Distribution:** scattered throughout. **Remarks:** Native Americans ate the roots raw. The twigs can be soaked in water to create a dye. FABACEAE    Legume family    (*Dalea lanata*)



**Pink Flowers**--- ½ inch +, in a larger spike of clustered flowers

**La Joya or Albuquerque prairie clover**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |      |      |      |      |      |      |

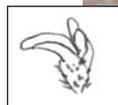
**Creeping Herb**---to 9 inches, sprawling. There are many pale yellow or reddish stems from the base. In the fall the stems and fruit often turn quite pink. **Leaves:** green, small, divided into 7 to 11 leaflets. **Flowers:** pink, occasionally white, pealike in shape, borne in spikes. **Fruits:** small rounded pods, at first green and later pink. **Distribution:** common. **Remarks:** this plant is found only in the Rio Grande Valley of Central New Mexico. FABACEAE    Legume family    (*Dalea scariosa*)  
 syn. *Petalostemum scariosum*



**Purple Flowers**---small, ¼ inch

**Shortstem lupine**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |      |      |      |      |      |      |

**Herb**---to 4 inches, with many, white, hairy, leaf stems from the base. **Leaves:** one compound green leaf (with approx. 5 to 8 leaflets) at the end of each leaf stem. **Flowers:** pealike, purple with a white “eye”, clustered at the ends of flower stems. **Distribution:** very uncommon, scattered. FABACEAE    Legume family    (*Lupinus brevicaulis*)



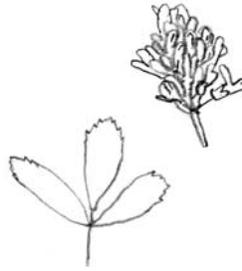
**Blue-Violet Flowers**---small, but in larger clusters

**Alfalfa**

APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT

**Herb**---to 1 ½ feet, several stems from base, much branched. **Leaves:** small and rounded, divided into 3 leaflets. **Flowers:** formed pealike, in round clusters, along and also at ends of branches. **Fruits:** small curled spirals. **Distribution:** uncommon, along entrance road near Interstate. **Remarks:** these plants are escapes from cultivation.

FABACEAE Legume family (*Medicago sativa*)  
introduced from Europe



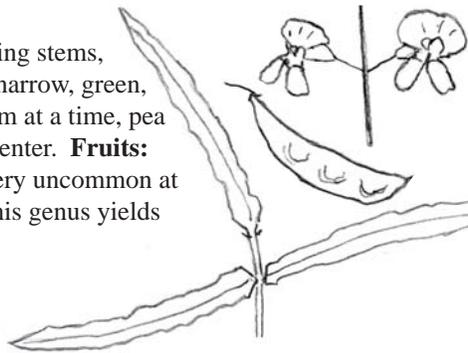
**Pink Flowers**---small, to ½ inch

**Slimleaf bean**

APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT

**Vine**---pale green, slender, long, twining stems, with tendrils at their ends. **Leaves:** narrow, green, and shiny. **Flowers:** only a few bloom at a time, pea shaped, pink with a white and green center. **Fruits:** lima beanlike pods. **Distribution:** very uncommon at this site, along arroyos. **Remarks:** this genus yields many of our edible beans.

FABACEAE Legume family  
(*Phaseolus angustissimus*)



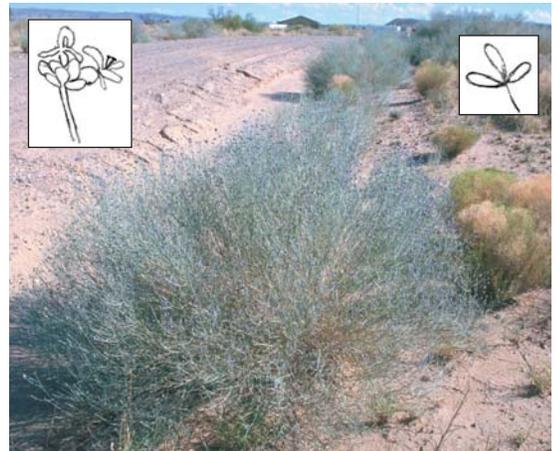
**Purple Flowers**--- ¼ inch, but in larger rounded clusters

**Purple sage, Broom dalea**

APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT

**Shrub**---to 4 feet, much branched. Parts of the year this plant looks like a mound of gray sticks. In spring the branches become green. In summer they are bluish. **Leaves:** very small, occasionally 3-fingered, and gray-green. Later in the summer there may be no leaves persisting. **Flowers:** numerous, small, found at the ends of branches, looking somewhat like tiny violets. **Fruits:** very small rounded pods. **Distribution:** scattered throughout. **Remarks:** this is not the sage used in cooking. That comes from another plant family.

FABACEAE Legume family (*Psoralea scoparius*)  
syn. *Dalea scoparia*



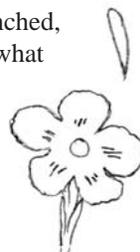
**Purple Flowers**---small, to ¼ inch

**Purple mat, Bristly nama**

APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT

**Herb**---to 6 inches, several to many brownish hairy stems, branched, aromatic. **Leaves:** long, narrow, hairy, and rather thick (somewhat succulent). **Flowers:** bell-shaped, opening to 5 lobes, violet with a yellow center, growing singly or clustered near ends of stems. **Distribution:** widely scattered. This can be quite common after a wet winter.

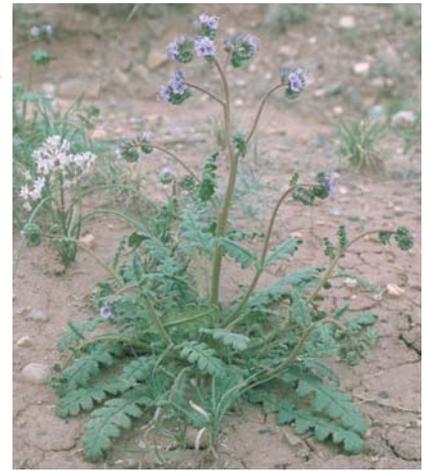
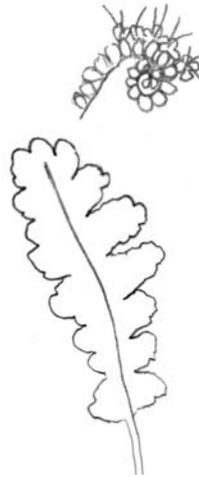
HYDROPHYLLACEAE Waterleaf family (*Nama hispida*)



**Purple Flowers**---small, to ¼ inch in coiled clusters

**Scorpionweed,** APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT  
**Gypsum phacelia**

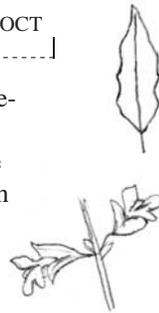
**Herb**---to 1 ½ feet, with pinkish hairy stems. **Leaves:** large, greenish-blue, and deeply lobed. Most are found near base of plant. **Flowers:** borne in scorpioid (coiled) clusters at the ends of stems. **Distribution:** scattered, in spring. This can be common after a wet winter. **Remarks:** Native Americans used the powdered roots and leaves of plants in this genus to treat swellings and skin rashes. HYDROPHYLLACEAE Waterleaf family (*Phacelia integrifolia*)



**Pale Blue to White Flowers**---tiny, ⅛ inch across, but longer

**Rocky Mountain sage** APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT

**Herb**---to about a foot tall (but most are shorter), and square-stemmed. **Leaves:** green, fragrant, opposite, toothed, and longish. **Flowers:** borne a few at a time, pale blue or white at this site (elsewhere they are often dark blue), tubular, with an upper and lower lip. **Distribution:** uncommon, found in depressions. **Remarks:** this genus, but not this species, produces our sage seasoning for food. LAMIACEAE Mint family (*Salvia reflexa*)



Photograph by Carolyn Dodson

**Orange Flowers**---medium, to ½ inch

**Globemallow** APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT

**Herb**---to 3 feet, many yellow-green stems from base, and many branches. **Leaves:** alternate, coarse, deeply lobed into 3 (sometimes 5) “fingers”. **Flowers:** 5 petals, cup-shaped, borne along the upper stems. The flowers look like miniature wild hollyhocks. **Fruits:** medium sized barrel-shaped structures, opening and divided at the top, into tiny chambers with black seeds. **Distribution:** along roads. **Remarks:** Native Americans ate the seeds. The interior of the stems can be chewed like gum. MALVACEAE Mallow family (*Sphaeralcea coccinea*.)



**Orange (or Pink, White or Purple)**---large, to 1 inch

**Globemallow** APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT

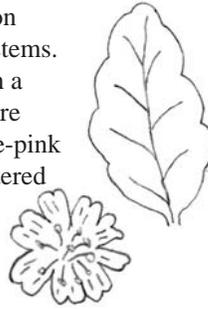
**Herb**---to 6 feet, with stout erect stems, branched. **Leaves:** gray-green, coarse, lobed, and wavy-edged. **Flowers:** 5 petals, usually orange with a yellow center, but can be several other colors. The flowers are borne along the upper stems. They look much like the previous species. **Fruits:** medium-sized barrel-shaped structures, initially green, open at top, and divided into a number of tiny chambers with black seeds. **Distribution:** especially along roads. **Remarks:** see previous species. MALVACEAE Mallow family (*Sphaeralcea* sp.)



**Rose-Pink Flowers---** ¼ to ½ inch

**Trailing windmills**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |      |      |      |      |      |      |

**Creeping Herb---**to 3 inches high, sprawling on ground, with many pink, slightly sticky, hairy stems.  
**Leaves:** wavy-edged, broadly rectangular with a narrower tip. Often larger and smaller leaves are found together. **Flowers:** bright, petallike rose-pink structures, notched at tips. **Distribution:** scattered throughout. **Remarks:** this plant is known in Spanish as *hierba de la hormiga* (ant plant).  
 NYCTAGINACEAE    Four o'clock family  
 (*Allionia incarnata*)



**Pink to Purple Flowers---**small, ¼ inch, in clusters

**Goosefoot moonpod**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |      |      |      |      |      |      |

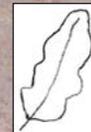
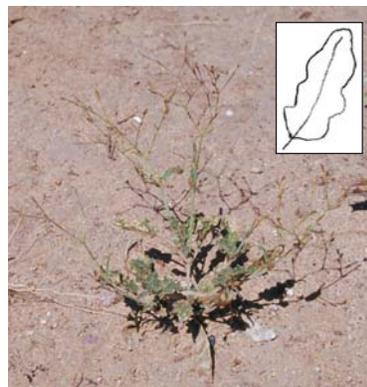
**Herb---**to 1 foot or a little more, one to several stems from base, branched. The stems are yellow-green. **Leaves:** blue-green, wavy-edged, shiny, and roughly shaped like a triangle. **Flowers:** small and trumpet-shaped, with long protruding stamens. **Fruits:** 5-angled, pinkish green seeds with papery wings. **Distribution:** scattered.  
 NYCTAGINACEAE    Four o'clock family    (*Ammocodon chenopodioides*)



**Pink Flowers---**tiny

**Spiderling**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |      |      |      |      |      |      |

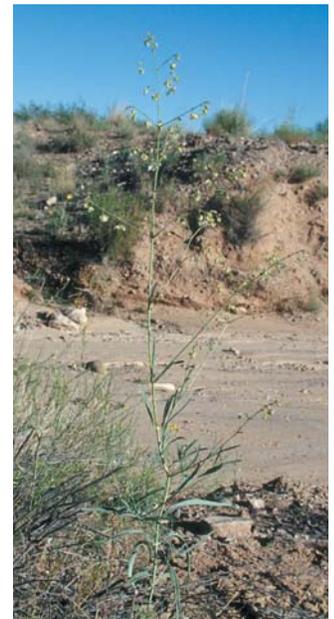
**Herb---**to 8 inches, stems can be sprawling, but usually are ascending, pink to green.  
**Leaves:** opposite, green, wavy-edged.  
**Flowers:** found near ends of leafless, airy, flower stalks. **Distribution:** scattered, but often in low areas.  
 NYCTAGINACEAE    Four o'clock family  
 (*Boerhavia sp.*)



**Green Flowers---**small

**Desert four o'clock**      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |      |      |      |      |      |      |

**Herb---**to 3 feet, stems erect, pale green, and smooth. There is usually one stem from base, branched. **Leaves:** linear, bluish, opposite, and wavy-edged. **Flowers:** not easy to notice, small, green, closed inside a 5-sided papery "lantern" most of the day. **Fruits:** distinctive, pink-white-green paper parachutes with a small black seed attached. **Distribution:** scattered, near arroyos. **Remarks:** as the common name suggests these flowers open in the late afternoon and close in the morning.  
 NYCTAGINACEAE    Four o'clock family    (*Mirabilis glabra*)



**Red to Pink Flowers**---to ½ inch, in spikes

**Scarlet gaura**                      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |

**Herb**---to 1½ feet, with many pale stems from the base, branched. **Leaves:** green, with lower ones longer and broader, and the upper leaves short and narrow. **Flowers:** pink, but turning red as they age. They are borne along the tops of stems. **Fruits:** elongated little green capsules (with a pink base). **Distribution:** scattered throughout. **Remarks:** one common name for this genus is Wild honeysuckle.  
 ONAGRACEAE    Evening-primrose family    (*Gaura coccinea*)



**Pink Flowers**---tiny, ⅛ inch, in spikes

**Smallflower gaura, Velvetweed**                      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |     |     |     |     |     |     |

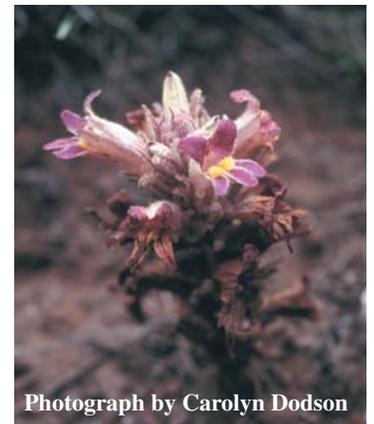
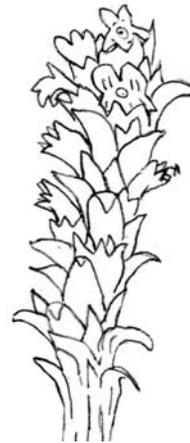
**Herb**---to 6 feet tall, with stout, hairy, pink stems, branched. **Leaves:** wider and larger at the base of the plant, to narrow and small above. **Flowers:** grow at the tops of long stems on long stalks. The flower spike may curl a little like a lizard’s tail. **Fruits:** tiny elongated green pods lining the stems below the flowers. **Distribution:** near Interstate at entrance road.  
 ONAGRACEAE    Evening-primrose family    (*Gaura parviflora*)



**Purple and Yellow Flowers**---small, in spikes

**Broomrape**                      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |     |     |     |     |     |     |

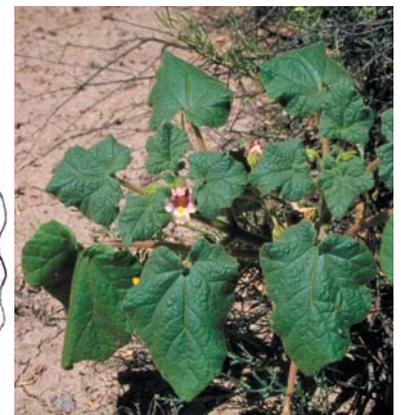
**Herb**---to 8 inches, with a very unusual appearance. This plant is succulent and parasitic. The stems are very thick, sticky, and yellowish-brown. **Leaves:** small, scalelike, overlapping, and not at all green. **Flowers:** purple and yellow, borne along the very thick stems. **Distribution:** very uncommon, scattered, found only during wetter seasons. **Remarks:** this plant doesn’t make its own food, but takes it from the roots of other plants.  
 OROBANCHACEAE    Broomrape family    (*Orobanche cooperi*)  
 syn. *O. ludoviciana* var. *cooperi*



**Pink Flowers**---large, to more than ½ inch across, but much longer

**Devil’s claw**                      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |     |     |     |     |     |     |

**Herb**---to 1 foot tall, spreading. Typically there is one thick, sticky, hairy stem from the base, branched, yellow or pale-pink. **Leaves:** large, green, and sticky, somewhat rounded or triangle-shaped, opposite, on long leaf stalks. **Flowers:** pink or nearly white, and tubular, with a yellow floor inside a flared opening. **Fruits:** distinctive, long curved pods. As they dry out, they split open into two claws, or pair of tongs. **Distribution:** uncommon, low ground. **Remarks:** you will never mistake the fruit for anything else. Native Americans use the fibers to make baskets.  
 PEDALIACEAE    Unicorn plant family    (*Proboscidea parviflora*)



**Pink Flowers**---small, about 1/8 inch

**Dwarf skyrocket**                      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

**Herb**---to 5 inches, small low plant with white and hairy stems. **Leaves:** green, deeply divided into narrow segments. **Flowers:** pink to blue, tubular, with 5 petallike extensions, and long blue stamens. **Distribution:** very common in area, to the west only. **Remarks:** Native Americans have used a lather from the dried flowers and leaves. They applied it to the forehead to treat headaches.

POLEMONIACEAE    Phlox family    (*Ipomopsis pumila*)



**Red-Orange Flowers**---small, but clustered

**Aberts buckwheat**                      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

**Herb**---small low plant. **Leaves:** tongue or spoon shaped, blue-green, with long petiole, mostly found at base of plant. **Flowers:** red-orange at margins, inside cream colored, borne in round flat-topped clusters.

**Distribution:** foothills near western mesa.

POLYGONACEAE    Buckwheat family    (*Eriogonum abertianum*)



**Pink Flowers**---small, between 1/4 and 1/2 inch

**Sunbright**                                      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

**Herb**---to 4 inches, often only one thin stem from base. **Leaves:** found only at the base of the plant, numerous, fleshy and cylindrical in shape.

**Flowers:** pink, 5 petals with a green center, borne at top of stems on slender leafless stalks. **Distribution:** uncommon, low ground.

PORTULACACEAE    Portulaca family    (*Talinum parviflorum*)



**Pink to White Flowers**---medium, to 1/2 inch

**Desert innocence**                      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

**Herb**---to 3 inches, forms a low growing mat with many stems. **Leaves:** small. **Flowers:** numerous, 4 petallike extensions to a slender tube. **Distribution:** scattered, sometimes on lower slopes.

**Remarks:** coffee comes from a plant in this family, also *chinchona* which yields quinine, a malaria treatment.

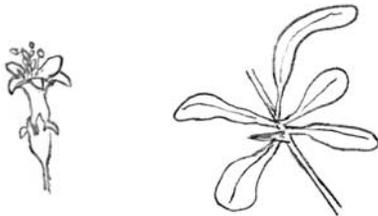
RUBIACEAE    Madder family    (*Houstonia rubra*)    syn. *Hedyotis rubiaceae*



**Greenish-White Flowers**---¼ inch across, but nearly an inch long

**Pale Wolfberry**                      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 [.....]   |   |   |   |   |   |   |

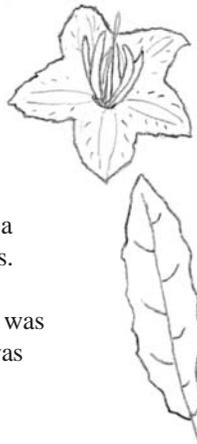
**Shrub**---to 3 feet, somewhat spiny, with dark gray bark. **Leaves:** clustered, yellow-green. Large and small leaves occur together. **Flowers:** greenish (with some yellow parts), tubular with 5 petallike extensions to the trumpet. **Fruit:** round berries, smooth, green turning to orange. **Distribution:** uncommon. **Remarks:** the fruit was widely consumed by people as well as wildlife. Native Americans applied the leaves as a treatment for cuts.  
 SOLANACEAE    Potato family  
 (*Lycium pallidum*)



**Purple Flowers**---medium, to 1 inch

**Nightshade, Horsenettle**                      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 [.....]   |   |   |   |   |   |   |

**Herb**---to 2 feet, many pale branched stems, often covered with orange prickles. **Leaves:** alternate, wavy-edged, rectangular, with a slightly pointed tip, pale on underside. **Flowers:** 5 petallike lobes at the end of a very short tube, lavender with a gold center, borne near ends of branches. **Fruits:** round berries, white or yellow (sometimes with darker green stripes), aging to black. **Distribution:** near roads. **Remarks:** the fruit was used to curdle milk to make cheese. A preparation of powdered berry was used like snuff, as a substitute for tobacco. The roots treated toothache.  
 SOLANACEAE    Potato family    (*Solanum elaeagnifolium*)



**Orange Flowers**---small, to ½ inch

**Carpetweed, Warty Caltrop**                      APR   MAY   JUN   JUL   AUG   SEP   OCT  
 |   |   |   |   |   |   |

**Creeping Herb**---to 3 inches, hairy, with multiple pink stems. **Leaves:** 5 to 18 green leaflets, which fold lengthwise in the hot sun. **Flowers:** 5 petals, pale orange to gold, borne at the ends of stems. **Distribution:** scattered throughout. **Remarks:** this plant looks a lot like Goathead (see Yellow Flower list), but Carpetweed has a very hairy stem, a slightly larger flower, more orange in color, and does not produce a spiny fruit.  
 ZYGOPHYLLACEAE    Caltrop family    (*Kallstroemia parviflora*)

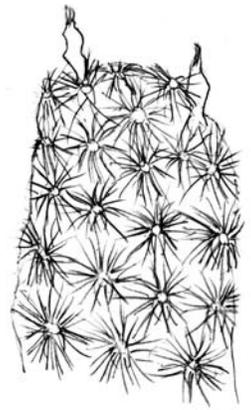
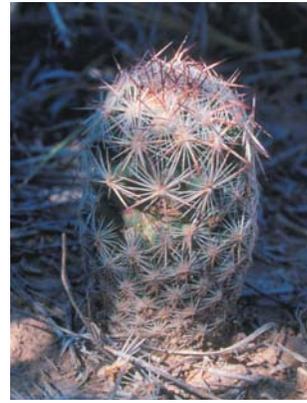


**Pink Flowers---large**

**Spinystar cactus, Pincushion**

APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT
		.....				

**Cactus---**small pincushion or sometimes beehive (cylinder)-shaped cactus, to 7 inches high, and very densely spiny. **Flowers:** large, pink with yellow center. **Fruits:** green, small, semidry. **Distribution:** uncommon, widely scattered, in low areas. **Remarks:** Native Americans burned off the spines and ate the stems.  
 CACTACEAE Cactus family (*Escobaria vivipara*)  
 syn. *Coryphantha vivipara*

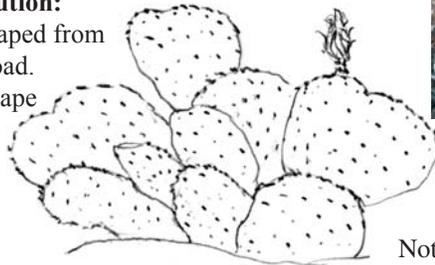


**Deep-Rose Flowers---large**

**Beavertail prickly pear**

APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT
		.....				

**Cactus---**to 1 ½ feet, blue (or purple-pink) pads, spineless, velvety to the touch. **Flowers:** showy pink. **Fruits:** shriveled, dry, pink-yellow structures at the top of pads. **Distribution:** planted near buildings, one plant, escaped from cultivation ?, at entrance along the road. **Remarks:** Beavertail refers to the shape of the pads. Native Americans ate parts of all the prickly pears.  
 CACTACEAE Cactus family (*Opuntia basilaris*)  
 introduced to New Mexico



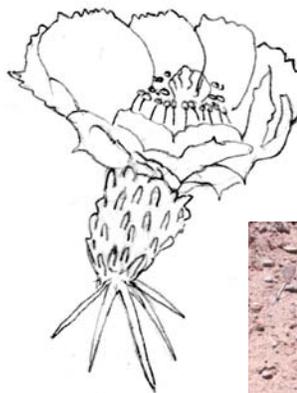
Not to scale

**Yellow Flowers---large, to 2 ½ inches**

**Dagger or Club cholla**

APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT
		.....				

**Cactus---**to 6 inches high, lies along the ground, mat forming, and spreading. The stems are shaped like “clubs”, jointed, covered with stout, white, dagger-like spines. **Flowers:** showy yellow. **Fruits:** long, dry, spiny, green to yellow. **Distribution:** ridge tops and slopes, also planted around buildings. **Remarks:** quite possibly Native Americans ate the stems and flower buds as they did for other chollas.  
 CACTACEAE Cactus family (*Opuntia clavata*)  
 syn. *Grusonia clavata*



Not to scale

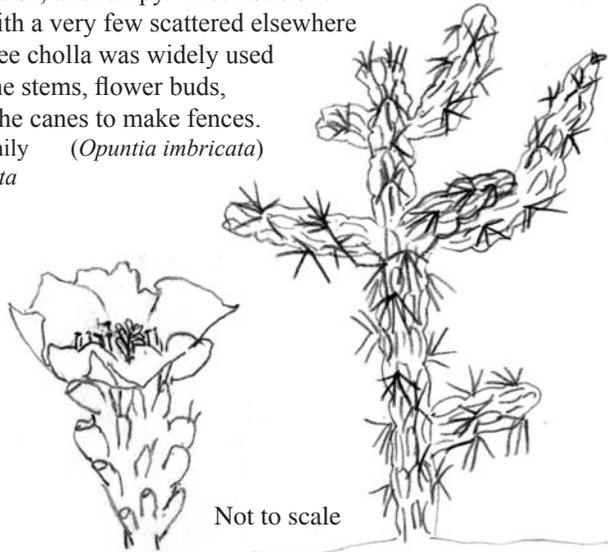
**Purplish-red Flowers**---large, to 2 inches

**Tree cholla**

APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT  
 | | | | | | |

**Cactus**---to 5 feet, covered with long tawny spines. There can be several stems from the base, branched. The stem parts are shaped like jointed lumpy “clubs” or cylinders, linked together.

**Flowers:** showy magenta, with a yellow center. **Fruits:** large, yellow, squat, roundish, and lumpy. **Distribution:** planted near buildings, with a very few scattered elsewhere on slopes. **Remarks:** Tree cholla was widely used historically. People ate the stems, flower buds, and fruit. They also use the canes to make fences. CACTAEAE Cactus family (*Opuntia imbricata*) syn. *Cylindropuntia imbricata*



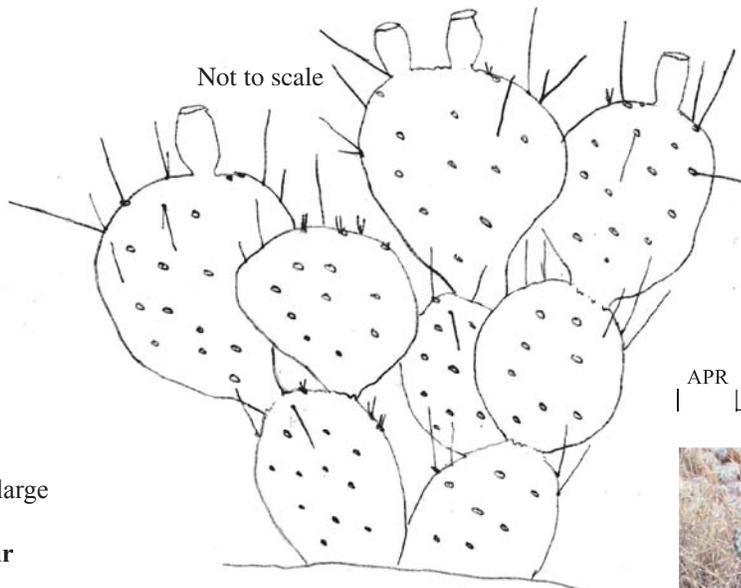
**Yellow Flowers**---large

**Purple prickly pear**

APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT  
 | | | | | | |

**Cactus**---to 2 feet tall at this site (taller elsewhere), a bluish upright plant, only a few pads touching the ground. It has large (7 inch) fleshy, oval pads. It is sparsely spiny, with 2 inch reddish spines. Spines are only found at the very top of the pads. **Flowers:** showy yellow with a red “eye”. The flowers turn peach as they age. **Fruits:** fleshy, red or pink, without spines. **Distribution:** planted at buildings, and a few are scattered elsewhere mostly near arroyos. This cactus is uncommon at this site. **Remarks:** used historically for food. See other prickly pear species.

CACTACEAE Cactus family (*Opuntia macrocentra*) syn. *O. violacea*



**Yellow or Peach Flowers**---large, 1 ½ inch

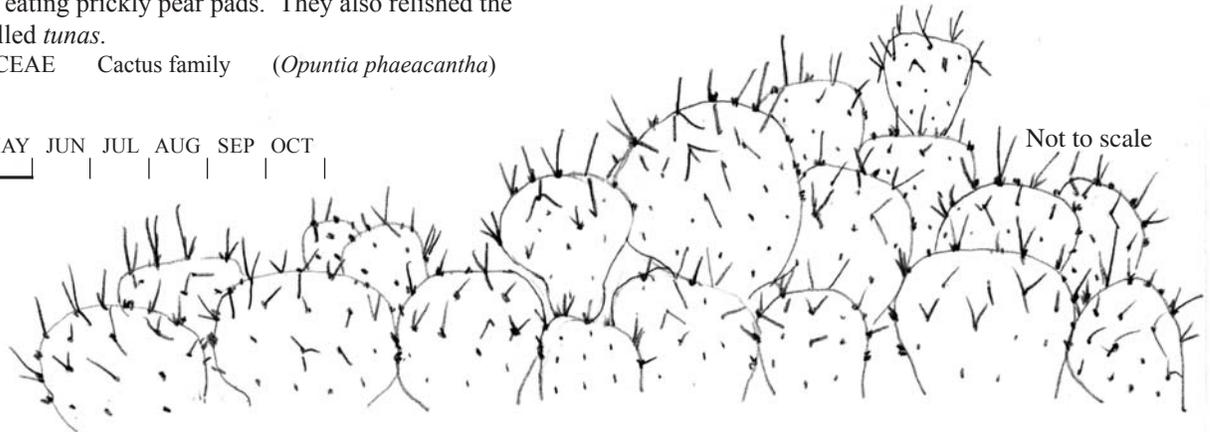
**Brown spine or Tulip prickly pear**

**Cactus**---to 1 foot at this site (can be taller elsewhere), with large fleshy pads, jointed, each 4 to 6+ inches across. They are yellow-green, or bluish in color, with many long (to 2 inches) white to red to brown spines on the top half of the pads. The lower parts of each pad are almost spineless. **Flowers:** showy yellow (or peach as they age), can be streaked with red. The buds are pink. **Fruits:** fleshy, red or pink, with no spines. **Distribution:** very common throughout, also planted at buildings. This is by far the most common prickly pear at this site. **Remarks:** Many people enjoyed eating prickly pear pads. They also relished the fruit, called *tunas*.



CACTACEAE Cactus family (*Opuntia phaeacantha*)

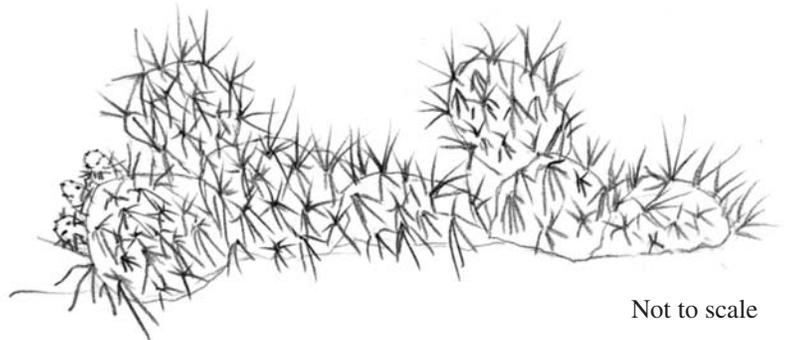
APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT  
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |



**Yellow Flowers**---large

**Many-spined or Plains prickly pear**

**Cactus**---to 1 foot, very spiny, green or bluish. The pads are rather small compared to other prickly pear cactus in the area (to about 3 inches across). **Flowers:** showy, lemon-yellow, with pink buds. **Fruits:** very spiny, dry, and rather pale in color. **Distribution:** planted at buildings, but not common anywhere else at this site. **Remarks:** probably they were gathered for food historically. People ate parts of most prickly pear species of cactus.



CACTACEAE Cactus family (*Opuntia polyacantha*)

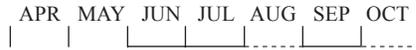
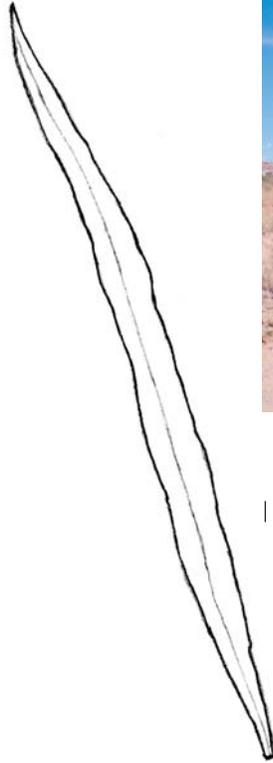
APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT  
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |



**White or Pink or Purple Flowers**---large, 1 inch and longer, in a cluster

**Desert willow**

**Small tree**---to 25 feet, with a spreading crown. The bark is gray, dotted with white. **Leaves:** green, narrow, and 3 to 6 inches long. **Flowers:** large and showy, tubular-shaped, fragrant, with several to a cluster. **Fruits:** 4 to 8 inches long and narrow. The pod remains attached in winter. It is initially green, but dries to brown, and splits open lengthwise. **Distribution:** near arroyos and planted at buildings. **Remarks:** Native Americans used the twigs to make bows. This plant is not related to the true willows, which are in the Salicaceae family. **BIGNONIACEAE** Catalpa family (*Chilopsis linearis*)



**No Flowers**



**One-seed juniper**

**Small tree**---to 20 feet, an evergreen, with shreddy bark and often several trunks. Pollination occurs in the winter. There are separate male and female plants. **Leaves:** scalelike, very stiff and yellow-green, aromatic. **Fruits:** blue or copper-colored berries, fleshy, moist, usually 1-seeded but can have 2. **Distribution:** scattered throughout. **Remarks:** Native Americans collected the berries for food, for a medicinal tea, or for use as a seasoning. The branches were made into a variety of tools, including bows. The bark was woven into mats. **CUPRESSACEAE** Cypress family (*Juniperus monosperma*)



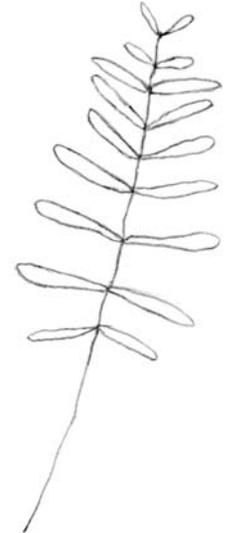
**Yellow Flowers**---tiny, but in a large long cluster

**Honey mesquite**

APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT  
 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

**Shrub to small tree**---to 15 feet, covered with stout gray or yellowish spines. The bark is rough, and very dark. The newest stems are orange. **Leaves:** green, each divided into many paired, narrow leaflets. **Flowers:** yellow with pink, forming dense, long, fragrant, caterpillar-shaped clusters along branches. **Fruits:** 3 to 8 inches long in flat green pods. **Distribution:** scattered throughout. **Remarks:** Native Americans ate the flowers and ground the pods into meal, or fermented them to produce a kind of beer. Bees are very attracted to the flower nectar.

MIMOSACEAE  
 Mimosa family  
 (*Prosopis glandulosa*)  
 syn. *Prosopis juliflora*



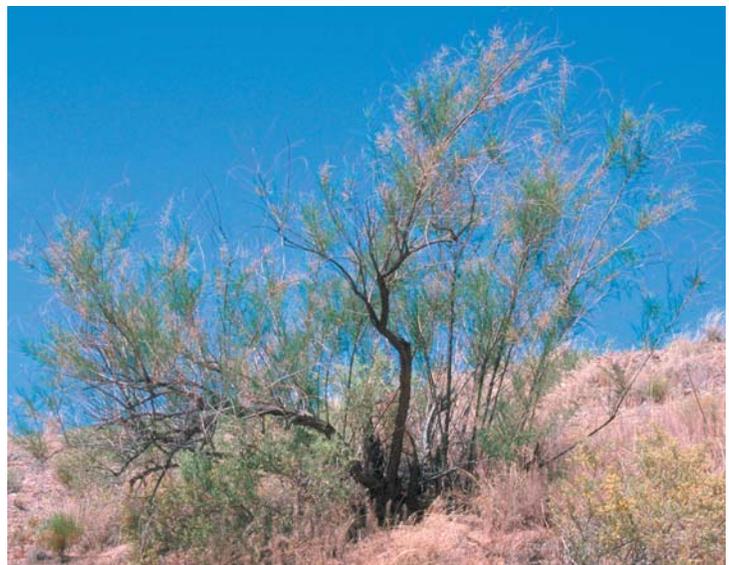
**Pink Flowers**---tiny, but clustered

**Saltcedar, Tamarisk**

APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT  
 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

**Shrub to small tree**---branched from base. The older bark is gray, with the younger bark reddish. **Leaves:** small, scalelike, lacy, soft appearance that resembles juniper. **Flowers:** found in sprays. **Distribution:** near Seville entrance next to the Interstate or arroyos nearby. **Remarks:** this plant has become a noxious pest especially along desert washes and streams. It is almost impossible to eradicate. Because it has few natural local enemies, it out-competes and crowds native species.

TAMARICACEAE  
 Tamarisk family  
 (*Tamarix sp.*)  
 introduced from Eurasia



**ALPHABETICAL LIST OF FLOWERING PLANTS IDENTIFIED**

**Agavaceae—Agave family**

*Yucca baccata*, Banana yucca  
*Yucca glauca*, Soapweed yucca

planted at LTER buildings<sup>2</sup>

**Amaranthaceae—Amaranth family**

*Amaranthus palmeri*, Carelessweed  
*Tidestromia lanuginosa*, Woolly tidestromia

**Anacardiaceae—Sumac family**

*Rhus microphylla*, Littleleaf sumac  
*Rhus trilobata*, Lemonadeberry, Threeleaf sumac, Fragrant sumac

**Apiaceae—Parsley family**

*Cymopterus acaulis*, variety *fendleri*, Spring parsley

**Asclepiadaceae—Milkweed family**

*Asclepias oenotherioides*, Longhorn milkweed, Zizotes milkweed  
*Asclepias subverticillata*, Poison milkweed, Horsetail milkweed

**Asteraceae—Composite (Sunflower) family**

*Acourtia nana*, Dwarf desert holly  
*Ambrosia acanthicarpa*, Bur ragweed  
*Aphanostephus ramosissimus*, Plains dozedaisy  
*Artemisia bigelovii*, Bigelow sage  
*Artemisia dracunculus*, Tarragon  
*Artemisia filifolia*, Sand sagebrush, Threadleaf sage  
*Bahia absinthifolia*, Sageleaf bahia  
*Bahia dissecta*, Ragleaf bahia  
*Baileya multiradiata*, Desert marigold  
*Berlandiera lyrata*, Chocolate flower, Greeneyes  
*Brickellia eupatorioides*, False boneset  
*Calycoseris wrightii*, Wright's tackstem  
*Chaetopappa ericoides*, Baby aster  
*Chrysothamnus nauseosus*, Chamisa, Rubber rabbitbrush  
*Cirsium ochrocentrum*, Yellowspine thistle, Sante Fe thistle  
*Conyza canadensis*, Canadian horseweed  
*Engelmannia pinnatifida*, Engelmann's daisy  
*Erigeron sp.*, Fleabane  
*Gaillardia pulchella*, Firewheel, Indian blanket  
*Gutierrezia sarothrae*, Broom snakeweed  
*Helianthus petiolaris*, Prairie sunflower  
*Hymenopappus filifolius*, Fineleaf woollywhite, White ragweed  
*Isocoma pluriflora*, Jimmyweed  
*Laennecia coulteri*, Coulter's horseweed  
*Machaeranthera canescens*, Purple aster, Hoary aster  
*Machaeranthera pinnatifida*, Goldenweed  
*Machaeranthera tanacetifolia*, Tansy aster, Purple aster  
*Malacothrix fendleri*, Desert dandelion  
*Melampodium leucanthum*, Blackfoot daisy  
*Palafoxia sphacelata*, Othake  
*Pectis angustifolia*, Lemonweed  
*Psilostrophe tagetina*, Paper daisy  
*Ratibida columnifera*, Mexican hat, Prairie coneflower

*Sanvitalia abertii*, Abert's dome, Abert's creeping zinnia  
*Senecio flaccidus*, Threadleaf groundsel  
*Senecio spartioides*, variety *multicapitatus*, Many-headed groundsel  
*Sonchus asper*, Sow thistle introduced<sup>1</sup>  
*Stephanomeria pauciflora*, Skeletonweed, Wire lettuce  
*Thelesperma megapotamicum*, Indian tea, Greenthread, Cota  
*Thymophylla acerosa*, Spiny dogweed  
*Townsendia annua*, Annual Easter daisy  
*Verbesina encelioides*, Cowpen daisy  
*Zinnia grandiflora*, Rocky Mountain zinnia

**Bignoniaceae—Catalpa family**

*Chilopsis linearis*, Desert willow

**Boraginaceae—Borage family**

*Cryptantha cinerea*, Cat's eye  
*Cryptantha crassisepala*, Hiddenflower  
*Heliotropium convolvulaceum*, Bindweed heliotrope  
*Lappula occidentalis*, Desert stickseed  
*Lithospermum incisum*, Puccoon

**Brassicaceae—Mustard family**

*Descurainia obtusa*, Tansy mustard  
*Dimorphocarpa wislizeni*, Spectacle pod  
*Lepidium latifolium*, Broadleaf pepperweed introduced<sup>1</sup>  
*Lesquerella fendleri*, Fendler's bladderpod  
*Streptanthus carinatus*, Yellow twistflower

**Cactaceae—Cactus family**

*Echinocereus coccineus*, Claret cup planted at LTER buildings<sup>2</sup>  
*Escobaria vivipara*, Spinystar cactus, pincushion  
*Opuntia basilaris*, Beavertail prickly pear introduced<sup>1</sup>  
*Opuntia clavata*, Dagger cholla, Club cholla  
*Opuntia engelmannii*, Engelmann's prickly pear planted at LTER buildings<sup>2</sup>  
*Opuntia imbricata*, Tree cholla  
*Opuntia macrocentra*, Purple prickly pear  
*Opuntia phaeacantha*, Brown spine or Tulip prickly pear  
*Opuntia polyacantha*, Many-spined or Plains prickly pear

**Caesalpiniaceae—Caesalpinia family**

*Caesalpinia jamesii*, James' holdback  
*Senna bauhinioides*, Twinleaf senna

**Chenopodiaceae—Goosefoot family**

*Atriplex canescens*, Fourwing saltbush  
*Atriplex confertifolia*, Shadscale  
*Chenopodium album*, Goosefoot, Lambsquarters introduced<sup>1</sup>  
*Kochia scoparia*, Summer cypress, Kochia introduced<sup>1</sup>  
*Krascheninnikovia lanata*, Winterfat  
*Salsola kali*, Tumbleweed, Russian thistle introduced<sup>1</sup>

**Convolvulaceae—Morning glory family**

*Convolvulus arvensis*, Field bindweed introduced<sup>1</sup>  
*Evolvulus nuttallianus*, Hairy evolvulus

**Cucurbitaceae—Gourd family**

*Cucurbita foetidissima*, Buffalo gourd

**Cupressaceae—Cypress family***Juniperus monosperma*, Oneseed juniper**Ephedraceae—Ephedra family***Ephedra torreyana*, Jointfir, Mormon tea**Euphorbiaceae—Euphorbia family***Chamaesyce albomarginata*, Rattlesnakeweed, Spurge*Chamaesyce fendleri*, Fendler's spurge*Chamaesyce* sp.*Croton texensis*, Doveweed**Fabaceae—Legume family***Astragalus allochrous*, Halfmoon milkvetch*Dalea formosa*, Indigobush, Feather dalea*Dalea lanata*, Woolly dalea*Dalea nana*, Dwarf golden dalea*Dalea scariosa*, La Joya or Albuquerque prairie clover*Lupinus brevicaulis*, Shortstem lupine*Medicago sativa*, Alfalfaintroduced<sup>1</sup>*Melilotus albus*, White sweetcloverintroduced<sup>1</sup>*Melilotus officinalis*, Yellow sweetcloverintroduced<sup>1</sup>*Parryella filifolia*, Dune broom*Phaseolus angustissimus*, Slimleaf bean*Psoralea scoparius*, Purple sage, Broom dalea**Fagaceae—Oak family***Quercus gambelii*, Gambel oakplanted at LTER buildings<sup>2</sup>**Fouquieriaceae—Ocotillo family***Fouquieria splendens*, Ocotilloplanted at LTER buildings<sup>2</sup>**Hydrophyllaceae—Waterleaf family***Nama hispidum*, Purple mat, Bristly nama*Phacelia integrifolia*, Scorpionweed, Gypsum phacelia**Lamiaceae—Mint family***Salvia reflexa*, Rocky Mountain sage**Liliaceae—Lily family***Allium macropetalum*, Wild onion**Linaceae—Flax family***Linum australe*, Southern flax*Linum puberulum*, Plains flax**Loasaceae—Blazingstar family***Cevallia sinuata*, Stinging cevallia*Mentzelia multiflora*, Stickleaf, Blazingstar**Malvaceae—Mallow family***Sphaeralcea coccinea.*, Globemallow*Sphaeralcea* sp., Globemallow**Mimosaceae—Mimosa family***Prosopis glandulosa*, Honey mesquite*Prosopis pubescens*, Screwbean mesquiteplanted at LTER buildings<sup>2</sup>

**Nyctaginaceae—Four o'clock family***Abronia fragrans*, Snowball sandverbena, Fragrant sandverbena*Allionia incarnata*, Trailing windmills*Ammocodon chenopodioides*, Goosefoot moonpod*Boerhavia* sp., Spiderling*Mirabilis glabra*, Desert four o'clock*Mirabilis multiflora*, Colorado four o'clockplanted at LTER buildings<sup>2</sup>**Oleaceae—Olive family***Forestiera neomexicana*, New Mexico olive*Menodora scabra*, Rough menodoraplanted at LTER buildings<sup>2</sup>**Onagraceae—Evening-primrose family***Gaura coccinea*, Scarlet gaura,*Gaura parviflora*, Smallflower gaura, Velvetweed*Oenothera albicaulis*, Prairie evening-primrose*Oenothera caespitosa*, Stemless evening-primrose, Tufted evening-primrose*Oenothera pallida*, Pale evening-primrose**Orobanchaceae—Broomrape family***Orobanche cooperi*, Broomrape**Pedaliaceae—Unicorn plant family***Proboscidea parviflora*, Devil's claw**Pinaceae—Pine family***Pinus edulis*, Pinon pineplanted at LTER buildings<sup>2</sup>**Plantaginaceae—Plantain family***Plantago patagonica*, Woolly plantain**Polemoniaceae—Phlox family***Ipomopsis pumila*, Dwarf skyrocket**Polygonaceae—Buckwheat family***Eriogonum abertianum*, Abert's buckwheat*Eriogonum annuum*, Annual white buckwheat*Eriogonum effusum*, Spreading buckwheat*Eriogonum rotundifolium*, Roundleaf buckwheat**Portulacaceae—Purslane family***Portulaca halimoides*, Silk cotton purslane*Portulaca oleracea*, Common or Garden purslane*Talinum parviflorum*, Sunbright**Rosaceae—Rose family***Cowania mexicana*, Cliffrose*Fallugia paradoxa*, Apache plumeplanted at LTER buildings<sup>2</sup>**Rubiaceae—Madder family***Houstonia rubra*, Desert innocence**Salicaceae—Willow family***Populus deltoides*, Valley cottonwoodplanted at LTER buildings<sup>2</sup>**Scrophulariaceae—Snapdragon family***Penstemon ambiguus*, Sand or Plains penstemon

**Solanaceae—Potato family***Chamaesaracha coronopus*, Greenleaf five eyes*Datura wrightii*, Moonflower, Jimsonweed*Lycium pallidum*, Pale wolfberry*Lycium torreyi*, Torrey's wolfberry*Solanum elaeagnifolium*, Silverleaf nightshade, Horse Nettleplanted at LTER buildings<sup>2</sup>**Tamaricaceae—Tamarisk family***Tamarix sp.*, Tamarisk, Saltcedarintroduced<sup>1</sup>**Zygophyllaceae—Caltrop family***Kallstroemia parviflora*, Carpetweed, Warty caltrop*Larrea tridentata*, Creosotebush*Tribulus terrestris*, Goathead, Puncturevineintroduced<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup>Introduced to New Mexico, not a native plant to this state<sup>2</sup>Planted at Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) buildings, and found in the refuge, but not found in the wild in the square mile covered by this list. The gardens around the Visitor Center were planted after this document was largely completed (June, 2004) and are not included.

## INDEX

- Abert's buckwheat**, 35  
**Abert's creeping zinnia**, 17  
**Abert's dome**, 17  
*Abronia fragrans*, 6  
*Acourtia nana*, 1  
 AGAVACEAE, 1  
 Agave family, 1  
**Albuquerque prairie clover**, 30  
**Alfalfa**, 31  
*Allionia incarnata*, 33  
*Allium macropetalum*, 6  
 Amaranth family, 10  
 AMARANTHACEAE, 10  
*Amaranthus palmeri*, 10  
*Ambrosia acanthicarpa*, 11  
*Ammocodon chenopodioides*, 33  
 ANACARDIACEAE, 1, 10  
**Annual Easter daisy**, 3  
**Annual white buckwheat**, 7  
**Apache plume**, 8  
*Aphanostephus*, 3  
 APIACEAE, 10  
*Artemisia bigelovii*, 11  
*Artemisia dracunculus*, 11  
*Artemisia filifolia*, 2  
 ASCLEPIADACEAE, 1  
*Asclepias subverticillata*, 1  
**Aster**, 2, 27  
 ASTERACEAE, 1–3, 11–19, 27–28  
*Astragalus allochrous*, 29  
*Atriplex canescens*, 21  
*Atriplex confertifolia*, 28
- Baby aster**, 2  
*Bahia absinthifolia*, 11  
*Bahia dissecta*, 12  
*Baileya multiradiata*, 12  
**Bean**, 31  
**Beavertail prickly pear**, 37  
*Berlandiera lyrata*, 12  
**Bigelow sage**, 11  
 BIGNONIACEAE, 40  
**Bindweed**, 4–5  
**Bindweed heliotrope**, 4  
**Blackfoot daisy**, 3  
**Bladderpod**, 20  
 Blazingstar family, 24  
*Boerhavia*, 33  
 Borage family, 4, 19  
 BORAGINACEAE, 4, 19  
 BRASSICACEAE, 4–5, 19–20  
*Brickellia eupatorioides*, 13  
**Bristly nama**, 31
- Broadleaf pepperweed**, 5  
**Broom dalea**, 31  
**Broom snakeweed**, 14  
**Broomrape**, 34  
 Broomrape family, 34  
**Brown spine prickly pear**, 39  
 Buckwheat family, 7–8, 35  
**Buffalo gourd**, 22  
**Bur ragweed**, 11
- CACTACEAE, 37–39  
 Cactus family, 37–39  
 Caesalpinia family, 20–21  
*Caesalpinia jamesii*, 20  
 CAESALPINIACEAE, 20–21  
 Caltrop family, 25–26, 36  
*Calycoseris wrightii*, 2  
**Canadian horseweed**, 3  
**Carelessweed**, 10  
**Carpetweed**, 36  
*Cassia bauhinioides*, 21  
 Catalpa family, 40  
**Cat's eye**, 4  
*Ceratoides lanata*, 22  
*Cevallia sinuata*, 24  
*Chaetopappa ericoides*, 2  
*Chamaesaracha coronopus*, 8  
*Chamaesyce albomarginata*, 5  
*Chamaesyce fendleri*, 29  
**Chamisa**, 13  
 CHENOPODIACEAE, 21–22, 28–29  
*Chenopodium album*, 28  
*Chilopsis linearis*, 40  
**Chocolate flower**, 12  
*Chrysothamnus nauseosus*, 13  
*Cirsium ochrocentrum*, 27  
**Club cholla**, 37  
**Common purslane**, 25  
 Composite family, 1–3, 11–19, 27–28  
**Coneflower**, 28  
 CONVOLVULACEAE, 5, 29  
*Convolvulus arvensis*, 5  
*Conyza canadensis*, 3  
*Conyza coulteri*, 16  
*Coryphantha vivipara*, 37  
**Cota**, 18  
**Coulter's horseweed**, 16  
**Cowpen daisy**, 19  
**Creosotebush**, 25  
*Croton texensis*, 23  
*Cryptantha jamesii*, 4  
*Cryptantha cinerea*, 4  
*Cryptantha crassisejala*, 4
- Cucurbita foetidissima*, 22  
 CUCURBITACEAE, 22  
 CUPRESSACEAE, 40  
*Cymopterus acaulis*, 10  
 Cypress family, 40  
**Cholla**, 37–38  
*Cylindropuntia imbricata*, 38
- Dagger cholla**, 37  
**Dalea**, 23, 30–31  
*Dalea formosa*, 30  
*Dalea lanata*, 30  
*Dalea nana*, 23  
*Dalea scariosa*, 30  
*Dalea scoparia*, 31  
**Dandelion**, 16  
*Datura meteloides*, 9  
*Datura wrightii*, 9  
*Descurainia obtusa*, 19  
**Desert four o'clock**, 33  
**Desert dandelion**, 16  
**Desert holly**, 1  
**Desert innocence**, 35  
**Desert marigold**, 12  
**Desert stickseed**, 4  
**Desert willow**, 40  
**Devil's claw**, 34  
*Dimorphocarpa wislizeni*, 4  
*Dithyrea wislizeni*, 4  
**Dogweed**, 18  
**Doveweed**, 23  
**Dune broom**, 24  
**Dwarf skyrocket**, 35  
**Dwarf desert holly**, 1  
**Dwarf golden dalea**, 23  
*Dyssodia acerosa*, 18
- Easter daisy**, 3  
*Engelmannia pinnatifida*, 13  
**Engelmann's Daisy**, 13  
 Ephedra family, 23  
*Ephedra torreyana*, 23  
 EPHEDRACEAE, 23  
*Erigeron*, 3  
*Eriogonum abertianum*, 35  
*Eriogonum annuum*, 7  
*Eriogonum effusum*, 7  
*Eriogonum rotundifolium*, 8  
*Escobaria vivipara*, 37  
 Euphorbia family, 5, 23, 29  
 EUPHORBIACEAE, 5, 23, 29  
*Eurotia lanata*, 22  
**Evening-primrose**, 6–7

- Evening-primrose family, 6–7, 34  
*Evolvulus nuttallianus*, 29
- FABACEAE, 5, 23–24, 29–31  
*Fallugia paradoxa*, 8  
**False boneset**, 13  
**Feather dalea**, 30  
**Fendler's bladderpod**, 20  
**Fendler's spurge**, 29  
**Field bindweed**, 5  
**Fineleaf woolly white**, 15  
**Firewheel**, 14  
**Five eyes**, 8  
**Flax**, 24  
 Flax family, 24  
**Fleabane**, 3  
**Four o'clock**, 33  
 Four o'clock family, 6, 33  
**Fourwing saltbush**, 21  
**Fragrant sandverbena**, 6  
**Fragrant sumac**, 10
- Gaillardia puchella*, 14  
**Garden purslane**, 25  
*Gaura coccinea*, 34  
*Gaura parviflora*, 34  
**Globemallow**, 32  
**Goathead**, 26  
**Goldenweed**, 16  
**Goosefoot**, 28  
 Goosefoot family, 21–22, 28–29  
**Goosefoot moonpod**, 33  
 Gourd family, 22  
**Greeneyes**, 12  
**Greenleaf five eyes**, 8  
**Greenthread**, 18  
**Groundsel**, 17–18  
*Grusonia clavata*, 37  
*Gutierrezia sarothrae*, 14  
**Gypsum phacelia**, 32
- Hairy evolvulus**, 29  
**Halfmoon milkvetch**, 29  
*Haplopappus heterophyllus*, 15  
*Haplopappus spinulosus*, 16  
*Hedyotis rubra*, 35  
*Helianthus petiolaris*, 15  
*Heliotropium convolvulaceum*, 4  
**Hiddenflower**, 4  
**Hoary aster**, 27  
*Hoffmanseggia jamesii*, 20  
**Holdback**, 20  
**Honey mesquite**, 41  
**Horsenettle**, 36  
**Horsetail milkweed**, 1  
**Horseweed**, 3, 16  
*Houstonia rubra*, 35
- HYDROPHYLLACEAE, 31–32  
*Hymenopappus filifolius*, 15
- Indian blanket**, 14  
**Indian tea**, 18  
**Indigobush**, 30  
*Ipomopsis pumila*, 35  
*Isocoma pluriflora*, 15
- James' holdback**, 20  
**Jimmyweed**, 15  
**Jimsonweed**, 9  
**Jointfir**, 23  
**Juniper**, 40  
*Juniperus monosperma*, 40
- Kallstroemia parviflora*, 36  
**Kochia**, 21  
*Kochia scoparia*, 21  
*Krascheninnikovia lanata*, 22  
*Kuhnia chlorolepis*, 13  
*Kuhnia eupatorioides* 13
- La Joya prairie clover**, 30  
*Laennecia coulteri*, 16  
**Lambsquarters**, 28  
 LAMIACEAE, 32  
*Lappula occidentalis*, 4  
*Larrea tridentata*, 25  
 Legume family, 5, 23–24, 29–31  
**Lemonadeberry**, 10  
**Lemonweed**, 16  
*Lepidium latifolium* 5  
*Lesquerella fendleri* 20  
**Lettuce** 28  
*Leucelene ericoides*, 2  
 LILIACEAE, 6  
 Lily family, 6  
 LINACEAE, 24  
*Linum australe*, 24  
*Linum puberulum*, 24  
*Lithospermum incisum*, 19  
**Littleleaf sumac**, 1  
 LOASACEAE, 24  
**Lupine**, 30  
*Lupinus brevicaulis*, 30  
*Lycium pallidum*, 36
- Machaeranthera canescens*, 27  
*Machaeranthera pinnatifida*, 16  
*Machaeranthera tanacetifolia*, 27  
 Madder family, 35  
*Malacothrix fendleri*, 16  
 Mallow family, 32  
 MALVACEAE, 32  
**Many-headed groundsel**, 18  
**Many-spined prickly pear**, 39
- Medicago sativa*, 31  
*Melampodium leucanthum*, 3  
*Melilotus albus*, 5, 23  
*Melilotus officinalis*, 5, 23  
*Menodora scabra*, 25  
*Mentzelia multiflora*, 24  
**Mesquite**, 41  
**Mexican hat**, 28  
 Milkweed family, 1  
 Mimosa family, 41  
 MIMOSACEAE, 41  
 Mint family, 32  
*Mirabilis glabra*, 33  
**Moonflower**, 9  
**Mormon tea**, 23  
 Morning glory family, 5, 29  
 Mustard family, 4–5, 19–20
- Nama hispidum*, 31  
**Nightshade**, 36  
 NYCTAGINACEAE, 6, 33
- Oenothera albicaulis*, 7  
*Oenothera caespitosa*, 6  
*Oenothera pallida*, 7  
 OLEACEAE, 25  
 Olive family, 25  
 ONAGRACEAE, 6–7, 34  
**One-seed juniper**, 40  
**Onion**, 6  
*Opuntia basilaris*, 37  
*Opuntia clavata*, 37  
*Opuntia imbricata*, 38  
*Opuntia macrocentra*, 38  
*Opuntia phaecacantha*, 39  
*Opuntia polyacantha*, 39  
*Opuntia violacea*, 38  
 OROBANCHACEAE, 34  
*Orobanche cooperi*, 34  
*Orobanche ludoviciana*, 34  
**Othake**, 27
- Palafoxia sphacelata*, 27  
**Pale evening-primrose**, 7  
**Pale wolfberry**, 36  
**Paper daisy**, 17  
*Parryella filifolia*, 24  
 Parsley family, 10  
*Pectis angustifolia*, 16  
 PEDALIACEAE, 34  
*Penstemon ambiguus*, 8  
**Pepperweed**, 5  
*Petalostemum scariosum*, 30  
*Phacelia integrifolia*, 32  
*Phaseolus angustissimus*, 31  
 Phlox family, 35  
**Pincushion**, 37

- Plains flax**, 24  
**Plains penstemon**, 8  
**Plains prickly pear**, 39  
**Plantain**, 7  
 PLANTAGINACEAE, 7  
*Plantago patagonica*, 7  
 Plantain family, 7  
**Poison milkweed**, 1  
 POLEMONIACEAE, 35  
 POLYGONACEAE, 7–8, 35  
*Pomaria jamesii*, 20  
*Portulaca parvula*, 25  
 Portulaca family, 25  
*Portulaca halimoides*, 25  
*Portulaca oleracea*, 25  
 PORTULACACEAE, 25, 35  
 Potato family, 8–9, 36  
**Prairie coneflower**, 28  
**Prairie sunflower**, 15  
**Prickly pear**, 37–39  
*Proboscidea parviflora*, 34  
*Prosopis glandulosa*, 41  
*Prosopis juliflora*, 41  
*Psilostrophe tagetina*, 17  
*Psoralea scoparius*, 31  
**Puccoon**, 19  
**Puncturevine**, 26  
**Purple aster**, 27  
**Purple mat**, 31  
**Purple prickly pear**, 38  
**Purple sage**, 31  
**Purslane**, 25
- Rabbitbrush**, 13  
**Ragleaf bahia**, 12  
**Ragweed**, 11, 15  
*Ratibida columnifera*, 28  
**Rattlesnakeweed**, 5  
*Rhus microphylla*, 1  
*Rhus trilobata*, 10  
**Rocky Mountain sage**, 32  
**Rocky Mountain zinnia**, 19  
 ROSACEAE, 8  
 Rose family, 8  
**Rough menodora**, 25  
**Roundleaf buckwheat**, 8  
**Rubber rabbitbrush**, 13  
 RUBIACEAE, 35  
**Russian thistle**, 29  
**Sage**, 2, 11, 32  
**Sagebrush**, 2, 11  
**Sageleaf bahia**, 11  
*Salsola iberica*, 29  
*Salsola kali*, 29  
**Saltbush**, 21  
**Saltcedar**, 41  
*Salvia reflexa*, 32
- Sand penstemon**, 8  
**Sand sagebrush**, 2  
**Sandverbena**, 6  
**Santa Fe thistle**, 27  
*Sanvitalia abertii*, 17  
**Scarlet gaura**, 34  
**Scorpionweed**, 32  
 SCROPHULARIACEAE, 8  
*Senecio douglasii*, 17  
*Senecio flaccidus*, 17  
*Senecio longilobus*, 17  
*Senecio multicapitatus*, 18  
*Senecio spartioides*, 18  
*Senna bauhinoides*, 21  
**Shadscale**, 28  
**Shortstem lupine**, 30  
**Silkcotton purslane**, 25  
**Skeletonweed**, 28  
**Skyrocket**, 35  
**Slimleaf bean**, 31  
**Smallflower gaura**, 34  
**Snakeweed**, 14  
 Snapdragon family, 8  
**Snowball**, 6  
**Soapweed yucca**, 1  
 SOLANACEAE, 8–9, 36  
*Solanum elaeagnifolium*, 36  
*Sonchus asper*, 18  
**Southern yellow flax**, 24  
**Sow thistle**, 18  
**Spectacle pod**, 4  
*Sphaeralcea*, 32  
*Sphaeralcea coccinea*, 32  
**Spiderling**, 33  
**Spiny dogweed**, 18  
**Spinystar cactus**, 37  
**Spreading buckwheat**, 7  
**Spring parsley**, 10  
**Spurge**, 5  
**Stemless evening-primrose**, 6  
*Stephanomeria pauciflora*, 28  
**Stickleaf**, 24  
**Stickseed**, 4  
**Stinging cevalia**, 24  
*Streptanthus carinatus*, 20  
 Sumac family, 1, 10  
**Summer cypress**, 21  
**Sunbright**, 35  
**Sunflower**, 15  
**Sweetclover**, 5, 23
- Tackstem**, 2  
*Talinum parviflorum*, 35  
 TAMARICACEAE, 41  
 Tamarisk family, 41  
*Tamarix*, 41  
**Tansy aster**, 27  
**Tansy mustard**, 19  
**Tarragon**, 11  
*Thelesperma megapotamicum*, 18  
**Thistle**, 18, 27, 29  
**Threadleaf groundsel**, 17  
**Threadleaf sagebrush**, 2  
**Threeleaf sumac**, 10  
*Thymophylla acerosa*, 18  
*Tidestromia lanuginosa*, 10  
*Townsendia annua*, 3  
**Trailing windmills**, 33  
**Tree cholla**, 38  
*Tribulus terrestris*, 26  
**Tulip prickly pear**, 39  
**Tumbleweed**, 29  
**Twinleaf senna**, 21  
**Twistflower**, 20
- Unicorn plant family, 34
- Velvetweed**, 34  
*Verbesina encelioides*, 19
- Waterleaf family, 31–32  
**Warty Caltrop**, 36  
**White ragweed**, 15  
**White sweetclover**, 5  
**Wild celery**, 10  
**Wild onion**, 6  
**Winterfat**, 22  
**Wire lettuce**, 28  
**Wolfberry**, 36  
**Woolly dalea**, 30  
**Woolly plantain**, 7  
**Woolly tidestromia**, 10  
**Woolly white**, 15  
**Wrights tackstem**, 2
- Yellow flax**, 24  
**Yellowspine thistle**, 27  
**Yellow sweetclover**, 23  
**Yellow twistflower**, 20  
*Yucca angustissima*, 1  
*Yucca glauca*, 1
- Zinnia grandiflora*, 19  
 ZYGOPHYLLACEAE, 25–26, 36