ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
HERITAGE DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Plant Abstract **Element Code:** PDNYC04010
Data Sensitivity: No

CLASSIFICATION, NOMENCLATURE, DESCRIPTION, RANGE

NAME: *Acleisanthes chenopodioides* (A. Gray) R.A. Levin
COMMON NAME: goosefoot moonpod, goose-foot moonpod
SYNONYMS: *Selinocarpus chenopodioides* A. Gray, *Ammocodon chenopodioides* (A. Gray) Standl
FAMILY: Nyctaginaceae

AUTHOR, PLACE OF PUBLICATION: *Ammocodon chenopodioides* Standley, Journal of the Washington Academy of Sciences. 6(18): 629-631. 1916. *Selinocarpus chenopodioides* A. Gray, Amer. Jour. Sci. Arts, ser. 2, 15(44): 262-263. 1853.

TYPE LOCALITY: Valleys from Providence Creek to the Rio Grande, Texas, USA.

TYPE SPECIMEN: HT: GH. C. Wright 1707, 1851-1852. IT: MO, NY. LT: GH. The New York Botanical Garden (Accessed 2004), reports Type location as USA, New Mexico. See "Additional Information" for indepth discussion.

TAXONOMIC UNIQUENESS: Monotypic genus.

DESCRIPTION: Low, many branched herbaceous perennial from a fleshy fusiform rootstock, 15-40 cm (6-16 in) tall. Stems are dichotomously much-branched, the branches are rather stout, and densely covered with short, appressed, inflated white hairs when young; becomes glabrate (no hairs) with age. Opposite, broadly ovate, petioled leaves to 5 cm (2 in) long, entire or sinuate margined, the veins prominent on the lower surface, broad and white, or occasionally with pale purple color. The inflorescence is much branched, with a few reduced leaves. Flowers are on slender pedicels, in terminal cymes (clusters); perianth is pink to lavender, 7-10 mm long. The fruit is 5-6 mm long, the wings about half as wide as long, and veinless. Seeds are oblong-cylindric, pale-brown and lustrous.

AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION: The perianth of *Ammocodon* is campanulate and conspicuously constricted above the ovary, while that of *Selinocarpus* is tubular-funnelform and not constricted above the ovary. In *Ammocodon* the stamens are 2 or rarely 3, their filaments from the perianth, whereas in *Selinocarpus* the stamens are usually 5 (with 4 to 8 less common) and their filaments are adherent to the perianth tube. Furthermore, the flowers of *A. chenopodioides* are aggregated into many-flowered, umbelliform cymes, each flower subtended by one, or rarely 2, bracts, in contrast to the solitary to geminate flowers in the leaf axilis, subtended by 2 to 4, or very rarely one, bract, as found in the various species of *Selinocarpus*. (Fowler and Turner 1977).

ILLUSTRATIONS: Color photo of Isotype collection (Wright 1707, *in* MBG at http://digitalis.mobot.org/mrsid/bin/mosid/mosid.pl)
Color photos of Type collections (Wright 1707, *in* NYBG at http://scisun.nybg.org:8890/searchdb/owa/wwwcatalog.detail_list)
Color photo of Isotype collection (Wright 1707, *in* USNH at http://rathbun.si.edu/botany/types/fullRecords.cfm?myFamily=)

TOTAL RANGE: Western Texas through southern New Mexico, to southeastern Arizona, and southward into Chihuahua, Mexico.

RANGE WITHIN ARIZONA: Cochise, Greenlee and Pima counties.

SPECIES BIOLOGY AND POPULATION TRENDS

GROWTH FORM: Herbaceous perennial.

PHENOLOGY: Flowers from May to September.

BIOLOGY: Unknown.

HABITAT: Dry rocky and sandy soils, on hills. Often on limestone soils in the Trans-Pecos of Texas (Correll and Johnston, 1970). In New Mexico, found on valleys and mesas (Martin and Hutchins, 1980).

ELEVATION: 2,500-4,800 ft. (763-1464 m). Ranges from 3,500-5,000 ft. (1068-1525 m) in New Mexico (Martin and Hutchins, 1980).

EXPOSURE: Unknown.

SUBSTRATE: Limestone, calcareous bluffs, sandy clay, igneous outwash, gypseous-clay soils.

PLANT COMMUNITY: Unknown.

POPULATION HISTORY AND TRENDS: Unknown.

SPECIES PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT STATUS: None
STATE STATUS: None

OTHER STATUS: None (USDI, BLM AZ 2005)
[Bureau of Land Management Sensitive (USDI, BLM AZ 2000)]

MANAGEMENT FACTORS:

PROTECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN:

SUGGESTED PROJECTS:

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP:

SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION

REFERENCES:

Correll, D.S. and M.C. Johnston. 1970. Manual of the vascular plants of Texas. Texas Research foundation, Renner, Texas. pp. 587-588.

Fowler, B.A. and B.L. Turner. 1977. Taxonomy of *Selinocarpus* and *Ammocodon* (Nyctaginaceae). Phytologia 37(3): 177-208.

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MAJOR KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIVIDUALS:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

This species was originally described as belonging to *Selinocarpus*. Heimerl (1913) divided the genus into two sections. Standley (1916) raised one section, *breviflora*, to generic rank, naming the group *Ammocodon*. Heimerl (1934), and Tidestrom and Kittell (1941) treated species within *Selinocarpus*. However, more recent treatments of this group, beginning with Kearney and Peebles (1951), have recognized the species as belonging to *Ammocodon*. Fowler and Turner treat this species as being the sole member of the genus *Ammocodon*, primarily because of floral differences.

According to Fowler and Turner (1977), "Gray combined Wright's field numbers 89, 172, and 525 into Wright 1707, the type collection for the species, and generalized the locality to "valleys from Providence Creek to the Rio Grande." Number 89 if from the stoney hills between Santa Barbara and the Coppermines, New Mexico, 30 July, 1851; 172, from the hills towards Lake Santa Maria, northwest Chihuahua; 525, from the valleys from Deadman's Pass to the Wells, Texas, 17 June, 1851. One specimen from the Gray Herbarium has been chosen to serve as a lectotype."

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