



**ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
HERITAGE DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

Plant Abstract

Element Code: PDFAB0F2T4

Data Sensitivity: No

CLASSIFICATION, NOMENCLATURE, DESCRIPTION, RANGE

NAME: *Astragalus desperatus* var. *conspicuosus* Barneby

COMMON NAME: Barneby milkvetch

SYNONYMS: *Astragalus barnebyi*

FAMILY: Leguminosae

AUTHOR, PLACE OF PUBLICATION: S. Welsh and D. Atwood. Great Basin Naturalist 35:346. 1975.

TYPE LOCALITY: Along the Little Colorado River, 4 miles E. of Holbrook, Navajo County, Arizona.

TYPE SPECIMEN: CAS 337309. Ripley and Barneby (8451). 1 June 1947.

TAXONOMIC UNIQUENESS: This genus contains 1,500 species occurring throughout the subtropical and temperate parts of the world and is the largest genus of flowering plants in Arizona. "*A. barnebyi* is a near congener of *A. desperatus*, from which it differs in the larger size of flowers and parts, and in the usually more compact habit of growth" (Welsh 1979).

DESCRIPTION: Perennial herb from a branching woody rootstock, the stems usually very short, 1.5-5.0 cm (0.6-2.0 in.) tall. Leaves are 1.5-5.0 cm (0.6-2.0 in.) long, divided into 7-17 leaflets, these very small, 3.0-9.0 mm (0.12-0.36 in.) long, 1.3-3.0 mm (0.04-0.12 in.) wide, elliptic, or lance shaped and widest toward the tip, hairy on both sides. Inflorescences rather short and wide, 0.5-2.5 cm (0.2-1.0 in.) long with 2-8 flowers. Flowers 12.0-15.0 mm (0.48-0.6 in.) long, the banner (upper) petal curved back, pink-purple. Pods oval-elliptic, curved, 12.0-19.0 mm (0.48-0.76 in.) long and 5.0-6.0 mm (0.2-0.24 in.) wide, curved with silky hairs.

AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION:

ILLUSTRATIONS: Line drawing (USFWS)

TOTAL RANGE: Colorado, southern Utah and northern Arizona.

RANGE WITHIN ARIZONA: Near Holbrook, Navajo County; Moenkopi, 50 miles south of Lee's Ferry and Kaibab National Forest, Coconino County.

SPECIES BIOLOGY AND POPULATION TRENDS

GROWTH FORM: Herbaceous perennial

PHENOLOGY: April-June

BIOLOGY:

HABITAT: Crevices in sandstone

ELEVATION: 3,200-6,000 ft. (975-1829 m).

EXPOSURE:

SUBSTRATE: Carmel, Mancos Shale, Navajo Sandstone and Emery Sandstone Member of the Mancos Shale.

PLANT COMMUNITY: Disclimax desert grassland or Great Basin desertscrub.

POPULATION TRENDS:

SPECIES PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT STATUS: None (USDI, FWS 1996)
[Category 3C USDI, FWS 1985]
[Category 2 USDI, FWS 1983]
[Category 1 USDI, FWS 1980]

STATE STATUS:

OTHER STATUS: Forest Service Sensitive (USDI, FS Region 3 1990)

MANAGEMENT FACTORS:

PROTECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN:

SUGGESTED PROJECTS:

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP:

SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION**LITERATURE CITATIONS:**

- Barneby, R.C. 1948. Pugillus Astragalorum IX: novelties in Batidophoca Rydb. Leaflets of Western Botany 5(5):82-89.
- Barneby, R.C. 1964. Atlas of North American astragalus. Memoirs of the New York Botanical Garden. 13(2):726-729.
- Kearney, T.H., R.H. Peebles with collaborators. 1960. Arizona flora. Second edition with supplement by J.T. Howell, E. McClintock and collaborators. University of California Press, Berkeley. p.461-462.
- McDougall, W.B. 1973. Seed plants of northern Arizona. Museum of Northern Arizona. Flagstaff. p.251.
- USDA, Forest Service Region 3. 1990. Regional Forester's Sensitive Species List.
- USDI, Fish and Wildlife Service. 1980. Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Review of Plant Taxa for Listing as Endangered or Threatened Species. Federal Register 45(242):82489.
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- Welsh, S.L. 1978. Utah flora: Fabaceae (Leguminosae) The Great Basin Naturalist. Brigham Young University. Provo, Utah. 38(3):225, 265.
- Welsh, S.L. 1979. Illustrated manual of proposed endangered and threatened plants of Utah. Funded by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service.

MAJOR KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIVIDUALS:**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

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AGFD Plant Abstract

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Astragalus desperatus var conspectus

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