

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

Plant Abstract

Element Code: PDAST64040

Data Sensitivity: No

CLASSIFICATION, NOMENCLATURE, DESCRIPTION, RANGE

NAME: *Leucosyris arida*

COMMON NAME: Arid Tansy-aster

SYNONYMS: *Psilactis coulteri* Gray, *Machaeranthera arida* Turner & Horne, *Arida arizonica*, *Machaeranthera ammophila*, *Machaeranthera arizonica*

FAMILY: Asteraceae

AUTHOR, PLACE OF PUBLICATION: Turner & Horne. 1941. Brittonia, 16:324. 1964.

TYPE LOCALITY: Mesas near Camp Lowell, Pringle in 1882 (F, GH, NY).

TAXONOMIC UNIQUENESS: *Leucosyris arida* is one of nine species from the southwestern United States and northern Mexico in the genus *Leucosyris*. The genus *Leucosyris* was revived, reviewed, and expanded by J.F. Pruski and R.L. Hartman (2012).

DESCRIPTION: Annual herb 5–40 cm; taproots slender. Stems usually 1, sometimes 2–6+, erect to ascending, slender, usually much branched from base, divaricately so, densely hispiduloso-glandular, viscid. Leaves basal and cauline; proximal petiolate, distal sessile, often clasping; blades oblanceolate to oblong, reduced distally, 10–50(–70) × 1–25 mm, herbaceous, margins coarsely dentate or pinnatifid, apices of teeth or lobes spiny-tipped, faces glandular-hispidulous. Heads borne singly (terminal), often in loose, leafy, corymbiform arrays. Involucres hemispheric, 4–5 × 6–8 mm (fresh). Phyllaries in 2–3 series, appressed to reflexed distally, lanceolate, 1–5 mm, bases whitish, margins ± entire, apices green or sometimes purplish, acute, faces hispiduloso-glandular. Ray florets 20–35+; laminae lavender to whitish, 5–7 mm, coiling after flowering. Disc florets 25–40+; corollas yellow, 3–6 mm. Cypselae oblanceolate, 1.4–2 mm, smooth, faces sparsely sericeous; pappi: ray 0; disc white, terete, 1.5–3 mm.

AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION:

ILLUSTRATIONS:

TOTAL RANGE: Southernmost Nevada to northwestern Sonora, Mexico.

RANGE WITHIN ARIZONA: 21-305 ft. in desert regions of the state.

SPECIES BIOLOGY AND POPULATION TRENDS

PHENOLOGY: March to November

GROWTH FORM:

BIOLOGY: Flowers between March and June.

HABITAT: Desert regions in low sand dunes, sandy alkaline flats, gravelly washes, riverbanks, and sandy roadsides.

ELEVATION: 21-305 ft.

EXPOSURE:

SUBSTRATE:

PLANT COMMUNITY:

POPULATION TRENDS:

SPECIES PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT STATUS:

STATE LIST STATUS:

OTHER STATUS:

MANAGEMENT FACTORS:

CONSERVATION MEASURES TAKEN:

SUGGESTED PROJECTS:

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP:

SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION

LITERATURE CITATIONS:

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- Hickman, J. C., ed. 1993. The Jepson manual: Higher plants of California. University of California Press, Berkeley, CA. 1400 pp.
- Jackson, R.C., Johnson, R.R., Morgan, D.R., and Hartman, R.L. 2003. SIDA 20:1413.
- Kartesz, J.T. 1988. A flora of Nevada. Ph.D. dissertation. Univ. of Nevada, Reno. 3 volumes. 1729 pp.
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- Lehr. 1978. A catalogue of Arizona flora. p. 167.
- Pruski, J.F. and Hartman, R.L., 2012. Synopsis of *Leucosyris*, including synonymous *Arida* (Compositae: Astereae). *Phytoneuron*, 98, pp.1-15.
- Turner, B.L. & David Horne. Taxonomy of *Machaeranthera* Sect. *Psilactis* (Compositae-Astereae). *Brittonia* 16:316-331, 1964.
- Turner, B.L. 1986. Reduction of *Machaeranthera arida* to varietal status under *M. coulteri* (Asteraceae-Astereae). *Phytologia* 61(3): 143-146.

MAJOR KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIVIDUALS:**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

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