

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
HERITAGE DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Plant Abstract

Element Code: PDAST8P1Y0

Data Sensitivity: No

CLASSIFICATION, NOMENCLATURE, DESCRIPTION, RANGE

NAME: *Solidago spectabilis*
COMMON NAME: Remarkable Goldenrod, Basin or Nevada Goldenrod
SYNONYMS: *Solidago guiradonis* (A. Gray) var. *spectabilis*
FAMILY: Asteraceae

AUTHOR, PLACE OF PUBLICATION: Eaton, D.C. in Proc. Amer. Acad. Arts. 17:
193. 1882.

TYPE LOCALITY: Nevada: Pahute Mountains

TYPE SPECIMEN: US 49262 (isotype for *Solidago guiradonis* var. *spectabilis*). S. Watson (SN). 1867.

TAXONOMIC UNIQUENESS: *Solidago* is a large genus within the Aster family. There are at least 10 species and additional varieties found within Arizona.

DESCRIPTION: Plants 40–200 cm; rhizomes creeping, thick. Stems 1–10+, erect, proximally glabrous, glabrous or sparsely villosa-strigose in arrays; often with short fascicles in axils of mid to distal cauline leaves. Leaves: rosettes present at flowering; basal and proximal tapering to winged petioles, blades oblanceolate, 70–210 × 8–28 mm, somewhat fleshy (fresh), margins entire, sometimes shallowly crenate or serrate distally, sometimes undulate, apices acute, mucronate or attenuate, glabrous; mid and distal cauline not crowded, sessile, blades lanceolate to linear-lanceolate, 10–120 × 5–16 mm, reduced distally, margins entire. Heads 60–100, in thyriform-paniculiform arrays, sometimes secund apically, (3.5–)6–26(–60) × 4–10(–15) cm, branches ascending to arching. Peduncles 2–8 mm, glabrous or sparsely strigose; bracteoles 0–4. Involucre narrowly campanulate, 3–4 mm. Phyllaries in 3–4 series, outer narrowly ovate to lanceolate (1.5–3 × 0.4–1 mm), unequal, obtuse to acuminate. Ray florets (5–)11–15; laminae 1.5–3.5 × 0.5–0.75 mm. Disc florets 8–22; corollas 2.5–4.5 mm, lobes 1–1.5 mm. Cypselae (narrowly obconic) 1.5–2.5 mm (ribs 5–8, broad, lighter than body), sparsely strigose; pappi 3–4 mm. (Flora of North America 2015.)

AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION:

ILLUSTRATIONS:

Photos and Herbarium Mounts:

<http://swbiodiversity.org/seinet/taxa/index.php?taxon=Solidago%20spectabilis>.

<http://eol.org/pages/468327/media>.

TOTAL RANGE: Centered in Nevada and eastern California, with single occurrences in Idaho, Utah and Arizona; two records from central Colorado (Flora of North America 2015). NatureServe (2015) adds Oregon to this distribution, but does not include Colorado.

RANGE WITHIN ARIZONA: Known from a single collection area along the Virgin River near Beaver Dam, Mohave County.

SPECIES BIOLOGY AND POPULATION TRENDS

GROWTH FORM: Perennial herb, with rhizomes.

PHENOLOGY: Flowering: July to October

BIOLOGY: Considered a facultative wetland species.

HABITAT: Bogs, alkaline meadows, seepage areas at higher elevations, stream sides in desert at proximal elevations.

ELEVATION: 300-2600m

EXPOSURE: Not specified.

SUBSTRATE: Tolerant of alkaline meadows and hot springs.

PLANT COMMUNITY: Other plants noted at the Arizona collection site are *Tamarix*, *Pluchea*, *Typha*, *Eleocharis*, *Adiantum*, *Fraxinus* and *Cirsium*.

POPULATION HISTORY AND TRENDS: Globally, the species is considered to be “apparently secure” by NatureServe, but listed as critically imperiled in Arizona and Utah due to the single collection records from each state. The only records for Arizona are historical: 1978 and 1980. Both collections are from the same reach along the Virgin River, and both noted the plant as an “occasional.” No population trend can be inferred from this data, if indeed the species is still extant.

SPECIES PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT STATUS: None.
STATE STATUS: None.
OTHER STATUS: None.

MANAGEMENT FACTORS: None specified. However, since the species is found along a reach of the Virgin River and is a facultative wetland species, maintenance of the hydrological regime in this area is likely critical.

PROTECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN: None specified.

SUGGESTED PROJECTS: Given that the only records are historical, efforts should be made to determine if the species is still extant at the collection site.

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP: U.S. Bureau of Land Management (Arizona Strip Field Office) and private land holdings.

SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION

REFERENCES:

Encyclopedia of Life, accessed 07/02/2015, <http://eol.org/pages/468327/details>.

Flora of North America (eFloras), accessed 07/02/2015,

http://www.efloras.org/florataxon.aspx?flora_id=1&taxon_id=250067574.

Jepson eFlora, accessed 07/02/2015, http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/cgi-bin/get_IJM.pl?tid=5084.

MAJOR KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIVIDUALS:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Several reports in the early 1900's state the plant is poisonous to livestock.

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