

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
HERITAGE DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Plant Abstract

Element Code: PDSCR2L010

Data Sensitivity: No

CLASSIFICATION, NOMENCLATURE, DESCRIPTION, RANGE

NAME: *Mabrya acerifolia* (Pennell) Elisens

COMMON NAME: Mapleleaf false snapdragon, Maple-leaf snapdragon, brittlestem

SYNONYMS: *Maurandya acerifolia* Pennell, *Asarina acerifolia* (Pennell) Pennell

FAMILY: Scrophulariaceae

AUTHOR, PLACE OF PUBLICATION: *Mabrya acerifolia* (Pennell) Elisens, Systematic Botany Monographs 5: 58. 1985. *Maurandya acerifolia* Pennell, J. Wash. Acad. Sci. 19: 69. 1929.

TYPE LOCALITY: USA, Arizona, Maricopa County, Fish Creek Canyon.

TYPE SPECIMEN: HT: US-1368262. R.H. Peebles 5246, G.J. Harrison, and T.H. Kearney, 1 Apr 1928. IT: ARIZ, PH.

TAXONOMIC UNIQUENESS: Only species in the genus *Mabrya*.

DESCRIPTION: Prostrate, mat-forming plant, to 10 inches (25.4 cm) long, with brittle stems. Stems often hang down from moist, rock ledges. Leaves are up to 1 inch wide, wider than long, dark green, downy and sticky. They are heart-shaped to kidney-shaped, and coarsely toothed. Flowers are white to greenish white, up to 1 inch long, 5-lobed and tubular. Seeds 1-1.5 mm long, gray to blackish, with low corky longitudinal ridges.

AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION:

ILLUSTRATIONS: Color photo (Lewis Epple, in A.O. Epple, 1995: plate 315)

Color photo (ASU 185277, in <http://seinet.asu.edu/collections/>)

TOTAL RANGE: Endemic to Maricopa and Pinal counties, in south-central Arizona, including Superstition Mts. (Pinal County), Pinal Mts. (Maricopa Co.), above Canyon Lake (Maricopa Co.), near Horse Mesa Dam (Maricopa Co.).

RANGE WITHIN ARIZONA: See "Total Range."

SPECIES BIOLOGY AND POPULATION TRENDS

GROWTH FORM: Perennial vine.

PHENOLOGY: Flowers March – May.

BIOLOGY:

HABITAT: Occurs on rock overhangs, on shaded cliffs and rock ledges.

ELEVATION: 1,800 – 3,350 ft (549-1022 m).

EXPOSURE: North to east facing canyon walls.

SUBSTRATE: Rhyolite rock crevices.

PLANT COMMUNITY: Lower Sonoran Desert Zone. Associated species include: *Acacia greggii* (catclaw acacia), *Agave chrysantha* (golden flower agave), *Ambrosia ambrosioides* (Ambrosia-leaf bursage), *A. confertiflora* (weak-leaf bursage), *Baccharis* (false-willow), *Berberis* (= *Mahonia*) *haematocarpa* (Colorado mahonia), *Calliandra eriophylla* (fairy duster), *Carnegiea gigantea* (Saguaro cactus), *Celtis pallida* (spiny hackberry), *Eriogonum fasciculatum* (California wild buckwheat), *Eriogonum* ssp. (buckwheat), *Ferocactus eastwoodiae* (Eastwood's barrel-cactus), *Fouquieria splendens* (Ocotillo), *Gutierrezia sarothrae* (broom snakeweed), *Justica*, *Larrea tridentata* (Creosotebush), *Opuntia*, *Parkinsonia* (paloverde), *Psilostrophe cooperi* (white-stem paper-flower), *Quercus* (oak), *Rhus ovata* (sugar sumac), *Simmondsia chinensis* (Jojoba), *Sphaeralcea* (globemallow), and Cholla. (SEINet, accessed 2005).

POPULATION HISTORY AND TRENDS: Unknown.

SPECIES PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT STATUS: None

STATE STATUS: None

OTHER STATUS: Forest Service Sensitive (USDA, FS Region 3 1999)

MANAGEMENT FACTORS:

PROTECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN:

SUGGESTED PROJECTS:

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP: USFS – Tonto National Forest; Utery Regional Park.

SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION

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MAJOR KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIVIDUALS:**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

Revised: 2002-11-14 (SMS)
2005-07-07 (SMS)

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Arizona Game and Fish Department. 20XX (= **year of last revision as indicated at end of abstract**). X...X (= **taxon of animal or plant**). Unpublished abstract compiled and edited by the Heritage Data Management System, Arizona Game and Fish Department, Phoenix, AZ. X pp.