

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
HERITAGE DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Plant Abstract

Element Code: PDAST641B0

Data Sensitivity: No

CLASSIFICATION, NOMENCLATURE, DESCRIPTION, RANGE

NAME: *Machaeranthera riparia* (Kunth) A.G. Jones

COMMON NAME: Chiricahua Mountain tansy-aster, Chiricahua Mountain tansyaster, alkali aster

SYNONYMS: *Aster riparius* Kunth, *Aster sonora* Gray, *Machaeranthera sonora* (Gray) J. Stucky

FAMILY: Asteraceae

AUTHOR, PLACE OF PUBLICATION: *Machaeranthera riparia* (Kunth) A.G. Jones, Syst. Bot. 8(1): 85. 1983. *Aster riparius* Kunth, Nova Genera et Species Plantarum (folio ed.) 4: 92-93. 1818.

TYPE LOCALITY: Mexico: Crescit in humidis juxta lacum Cuiseo (Nov. Hisp.) alt. 900 hex.

TYPE SPECIMEN: HT: P. F.W. Humboldt & A.J.A Bonpland 4308, no date, Mexico (IT: B, MSC).

TAXONOMIC UNIQUENESS: One of 17 species in the genus *Machaeranthera*.

DESCRIPTION: Margins of the basal leaves usually exhibit a few spinulose teeth. Ligule color ranges from white to purple. Plants have more than 15 ray flowers in each head. Has a somewhat subsquarrose to gradate involucre.

AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION: *Machaeranthera riparia* is similar to *M. gypsitherma* (found in New Mexico), except it lacks basal rosettes of leaves and it has more than 15 ray flowers in each head; *M. gypsitherma* has 8-12 ray flowers per head (Sivinski, 1999).

ILLUSTRATIONS:

TOTAL RANGE: Arizona, New Mexico, and Mexico (Coahuila).

RANGE WITHIN ARIZONA: Willcox Playa, Cochise County.

SPECIES BIOLOGY AND POPULATION TRENDS

GROWTH FORM: Perennial subshrub, forb/herb. Specimens formally under *M. sonora*, have been reported as annuals.

PHENOLOGY:

BIOLOGY:

HABITAT: Collected in alkaline sink, and on edge of alkaline playa.

ELEVATION: Around 4,100 – 4160 ft (1251-1269 m) in Arizona. In Mexico, collected at 1200 m (3,935 ft). (SEINet, accessed 2005).

EXPOSURE:

SUBSTRATE: Alkaline and Saline soils.

PLANT COMMUNITY: In Arizona, observed with *Sporobolus wrightii* (sacaton). In Mexico, associated with *Allenrolfea*, *Atriplex* (saltbush), and *Suaeda* (seepweed). (SEINet, accessed 2005).

POPULATION HISTORY AND TRENDS: Unknown; few collections.

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 2000)]

MANAGEMENT FACTORS:

PROTECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN:

SUGGESTED PROJECTS:

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP: State Land Department

SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION**REFERENCES:**

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MAJOR KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIVIDUALS:**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

Revised: 2002-05-30 (SMS)
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