

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
HERITAGE DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Plant Abstract

Element Code: PDAPI1K020

Data Sensitivity: No

CLASSIFICATION, NOMENCLATURE, DESCRIPTION, RANGE

NAME: *Osmorhiza brachypoda* Torr. ex Durand

COMMON NAME: Sweet cicely; California sweet-cicely; California sweetcicely

SYNONYMS: *Washingtonia brachypoda* (Torr. Ex Durrand) A. Heller, *Osmorhiza brachypoda* var. *fraternal* Jepson, *Myrrhis brachypoda* Greene

FAMILY: Apiaceae

AUTHOR, PLACE OF PUBLICATION: Torr. ex Durand, Jour. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia 3: 89. 1855.

TYPE LOCALITY:

TYPE SPECIMEN:

TAXONOMIC UNIQUENESS: *Osmorhiza brachypoda* is 1 of 8 species in the genus *Osmorhiza*, and 1 of 3 in Arizona. The other two species include *O. berteroi* (Chilean sweet-cicely) and *O. depauperata* (blunt-fruit sweet-cicely).

DESCRIPTION: Erect perennial herb, 30-80 cm (12-31.5 in), with branched leady stems; roots thick, clustered, licorice-scented. Large compound leaves divided into numerous leaflets. Leaf petiole 5-20 cm (2-8 in); blade 10-20 cm (4-8 in), ovate to triangular-ovate, 2-3-ternate; leaflets 2-8 cm (0.8-3 in), ovate, serrate to irregularly cut or pinnately lobed. The compound umbel inflorescence with peduncle 9-20 cm (3.5-8 in); brackets 0, bracklets 2-6 and conspicuous, 2-10 mm, linear to lanceolate; rays 2-5, 3.5-12 cm (1.4-4.7 in), spreading-ascending; pedicels 1-5 mm. Flower corolla is greenish yellow; petals obovate with narrow tips; calyx 0; styles generally < 1 mm; disk often conspicuous. Fruit is 12-20 mm, oblong-fusiform; tail 1-4 mm; beak slender; ribs bristly. Seed face concave or grooved for the genus.

AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION:

ILLUSTRATIONS: B&W drawing (Hickman, 1993: p. 161)

Color photo (Dittmann, 1998: <http://www.mindbird.com/>)

Color photo (in <http://www.calflora.net/bloomingplants/sweetcicely.html>)

Color photo (in <http://www.timetotrack.com/jay/osmorhiz.htm>)

Color photo of collection specimen (ASU 218958, in SEINet at <http://seinet.asu.edu/collections/>)

TOTAL RANGE: Central Arizona and southern California.

RANGE WITHIN ARIZONA: Sierra Ancha and Mazatzal mountains in Gila County.

SPECIES BIOLOGY AND POPULATION TRENDS

GROWTH FORM: Perennial forb/herb, often from taproot.

PHENOLOGY: March to May.

BIOLOGY:

HABITAT: Moist ravines, woodlands, coniferous forests, riparian.

ELEVATION: 3,400 – 7,000 ft (1037-2135 m) in Arizona. CalFlora (2002), reports the elevation for its range to be 0 to 8,500 ft (0-2593 m); Hickman (1993) reports in California, the elevation ranges from 656-6,557 ft (200-2000 m).

EXPOSURE: Mostly south-facing slopes (in AZ), shaded.

SUBSTRATE: Silt, clay, loam.

PLANT COMMUNITY: In California, plant communities include southern oak woodland, foothill woodland, yellow pine forest, and red fir forest. In Arizona, associated species include: *Abies concolor* (white fir), *Acer negundo* (box-elder), *Alnus oblongifolia* (Arizona alder), *Arctostaphylos* (manzanita), *Juglans major* (Arizona black walnut), *Juniperus erythrocarpa* (= *J. coahuilensis*, redberry juniper), *Pinus ponderosa* (Ponderosa pine), *Platanus wrightii* (Wright's sycamore), *Pseudotsuga menziesii* (Douglas-fir), *Quercus gambelli* (Gambel oak), and *Q. grisea* (gray oak). (SEINet accessed 2005).

POPULATION HISTORY AND TRENDS: Unknown, but thought to be locally common. Believed to be common in California (NatureServe 2005).

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.**SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION****REFERENCES:**

- BONAP Distribution Data: taxa of genus *Osmorhiza* in the US.
http://www.csd.tamu.edu/FLORA/cgi/b98_list?genus=Osmorhiza. Accessed: 19 Jun 2002.
- CalFlora: Information on California plants for education, research and conservation. [web application]. 2002. Berkeley, California: The CalFlora Database [a non-profit organization]. Available: <http://www.calflora.org/>. (Accessed: Jun 19, 2002).
- Hickman, J.C, ed. 1993. The Jepson Manual, Higher Plants of California. University of California Press. Berkeley, California. pp. 158, 161.
<http://www.calflora.net/bloomingplants/sweetcicely.html>.
<http://www.cnplx.info/species?taxon=Osmorhiza+brachypoda>.
- Integrated Taxonomic Information System (ITIS). Retrieved 6/15/2005 from ITIS,
<http://www.itis.usda.gov>.
- Kearney, T.H., R.H. Peebles, and collaborators. 1951. Arizona flora. Second edition with supplement by J.T. Howell, E. McClintock and collaborators. 1960. University of California Press. Berkeley, California. Pp. 610-611.
- Missouri Botanical Garden, Nomenclatural Data Base. http://mobot.mobot.org/cgi-bin/search_vast. Accessed: 19 Jun 2002.
- Missouri Botanical Garden – TROPICOS, Nomenclatural Data Base. *Osmorhiza brachypoda* Torr. ex Durand. http://mobot.mobot.org/cgi-bin/search_vast. Accessed: 15 Jun 2005.
- Munz, P.A. 1974. A Flora of Southern California. University of California Press. Berkeley, California. p. 82.
- NatureServe. 2005. NatureServe Explorer: An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. Version 4.4. NatureServe, Arlington, Virginia. Available:
<http://www.natureserve.org/explorer>. (Accessed: June 15, 2005).
- Regents of the University of California. 1993. Online treatment from the Jepson Manual, *Osmorhiza brachypoda*. http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/cgi-bin/get_JM_treatment.pl?329,487,489.
- SEINet. Collections Search Result. Accessed 6/15/2005 at
<http://seinet.asu.edu/collections/list.jsp>.
- USDA, Forest Service, Region 3. 1999. Regional Forester's Sensitive Species List.
- USDA, NRCS. 2004. The PLANTS Database, Version 3.5 (<http://plants.usda.gov>). National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, LA 70874-4490 USA.

MAJOR KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIVIDUALS:**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

Osmorhiza is from the Greek *osme*, “odor,” and *rhiza*, “root,” meaning “odorous root,” in reference to the fragrance of the crushed root. *Brachypoda* is from the Greek *brachys*, “short,” and *podion*, “a little foot,” thus meaning “short-footed” in reference to the pedicels of the spikelets. (<http://www.calflora.net/bloomingplants/sweetcicely.html>).

Revised: 2002-07-25 (SMS)
2005-07-14 (SMS)

To the user of this abstract: you may use the entire abstract or any part of it. We do request, however, that if you make use of this abstract in plans, reports, publications, etc. that you credit the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Please use the following citation:

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.