

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

Plant Abstract

Element Code:

CLASSIFICATION, NOMENCLATURE, DESCRIPTION, RANGE

NAME: *Sclerocactus parviflorus* subsp. *terrae-canyonae*

COMMON NAME: Longspine fishhook cactus, Canyonland eagle-claw cactus, Small-flower fishhook cactus.

SYNONYMS: *Sclerocactus terrae-canyonae* (basionym)

FAMILY: Cactaceae

AUTHOR, PLACE OF PUBLICATION: Heil, Kenneth D. and J. Mark Porter.
Haseltonia 2: 27. 1994.

TYPE LOCALITY: Utah: San Juan County: Trachyte Wash, ca. 10 mi. S of Natural Bridges National Monument.

TYPE SPECIMEN: UNM 64283 (holotype). K.D. Heil (SN). No date.

TAXONOMIC UNIQUENESS: Although some recent opinions may add additional species to the genus *Sclerocactus*, the 2001 treatment by Heil and Porter recognize four species: *papyracanthus*, *sileri*, *whipplei* and *parviflorus* in Arizona. *S. parviflorus* has three subspecies: *S. p.* subsp. *parviflorus*, subsp. *intermedius*, and subsp. *terrae-canyonae*.

DESCRIPTION: SPINES: lower central spine hooked, 2.9-8.2 cm long, 0.75-2 mm diameter, mostly white, light brown, reddish-brown, dark brown or purplish-pink; upper central spine 2.6-6.2 cm long, mostly 1.5 mm wide, mostly white or rarely reddish-brown, flat, rhombic or rounded in cross-section. FLOWERS: inner tepals yellow (Heil and Porter 2001).

AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION: Yellow flowers (not purple to pink purple, rarely white) and spines not obscuring the stem are characteristics used to distinguish subsp. *terrae-canyonae* from the other two subspecies (Heil and Porter 2001).

ILLUSTRATIONS:

TOTAL RANGE: San Juan County, Utah and Coconino County, Arizona

RANGE WITHIN ARIZONA: Known only from two collections in Coconino County in Arizona.

SPECIES BIOLOGY AND POPULATION TRENDS

GROWTH FORM: Perennial succulent.

PHENOLOGY: Flowers: May-June.

BIOLOGY:

HABITAT: High elevation pinyon-juniper and sagebrush communities.

ELEVATION: 6500-7500 feet (2000-2300m).

EXPOSURE: Not specified.

SUBSTRATE: All collections have been associated with sandstone.

PLANT COMMUNITY: Upper pinyon-juniper woodland and sagebrush communities.

POPULATION HISTORY AND TRENDS: Unknown. With only eight known collections in both Arizona and Utah, there is no information pertaining to populations or trend.

SPECIES PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT STATUS: None.

STATE STATUS: Salvage Restricted (ANPL).

OTHER STATUS: None.

MANAGEMENT FACTORS: None specified.

PROTECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN: One Arizona collection is within Navajo National Monument and therefore protected.

SUGGESTED PROJECTS:

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP: USNPS, Navajo National Monument.

SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION**REFERENCES:**

Flora of North America (eFlora), accessed 4/3/2015,
http://www.efloras.org/florataxon.aspx?flora_id=1&taxon_id=242415288.
Heil, Kenneth D. and Mark J. Porter. 2001. Cactaceae. Jour. Az. Acad. Sci. 33(1).

MAJOR KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIVIDUALS:

Kenneth D. Heil, San Juan College, Farmington, NM, 87402
J. Mark Porter, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, Claremont, CA, 91711

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: *Sclerocactus parviflorus* has an extensive range and great morphologic variation. Many named segregates have been proposed (L. D. Benson 1982; K. D. Heil and J. M. Porter 1994; F. Hochstätter 1995b) and some of these clearly merit recognition at the subspecific or varietal level. However, we are not attempting to subdivide this very complex group. Considerable work remains in understanding morphologic diversification within this species (eFlora 2015).

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