

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

**Plant Abstract**

**Element Code:** PDAST8H274

**Data Sensitivity:** No

**CLASSIFICATION, NOMENCLATURE, DESCRIPTION, RANGE**

**NAME:** *Senecio neomexicanus* var. *toumeyii* (Greene) T.M. Barkley

**COMMON NAME:** Toumey groundsel

**SYNONYMS:** *Packera neomexicana* var. *toumeyii* (Greene) D.K. Trock & T.M. Barkl.,  
*Senecio toumeyii* Greene.

**FAMILY:** Asteraceae

**AUTHOR, PLACE OF PUBLICATION:** *Senecio neomexicanus* var. *toumeyii* (Greene) T.M. Barkley, North Amer. Flora Series 2, 10: 91. 1978. *Senecio toumeyii* Greene, Pittonia 3: 349. 1898.

**TYPE LOCALITY:** Arizona: Chiricahua Mountains. Toumey in 1896.

**TYPE SPECIMEN:** HT: ND-G. Toumey s.n., no date.

**TAXONOMIC UNIQUENESS:** There are 24-26 species of the genus *Senecio* found in Arizona (Lehr 1982); *S. neomexicanus* is one of the most widely distributed and abundant. The var. *toumeyii* is generally found at higher elevations in the Chiricahua and Pinal mountains than var. *metcalfei* or *mutabilis*. Kartesz (1998, in NatureServe 2004), "considers it questionably distinct taxonomically", and follows this species under *Packera neomexicana* var. *toumeyii*.

**DESCRIPTION:** Herbaceous perennial, 2-4(0.5-7) dm (8-16[2-28] in) tall, with a single stem or loose clusters, commonly with an erect caudex or creeping rootstock; frequently abruptly stooling into several close rosettes. Herbage is permanently lanate tomentose, with the upper surface of the leaf blades glabrescent. Basal leaves often purplish beneath, petiolate, ovate to obovate, 2-6(1-9) cm long and 1-3(0.5-4) cm wide, about 1.5 times longer than wide, the petiole about 1-2 times as long as the blade. Cauline leaves are not well developed. Inflorescence a terminal corymbiform or subumbelliform cyme of 3-12(-20) heads, sometimes subtended by (2-)3-5 smaller cymes arising from the axils of the middle cauline leaves. The principal involucral bracts are about 13 or 21 in number, 4-7 mm long, green or yellowish but not black tipped. Ray florets about 8 or 13, the ligules 4-10 mm long. Achenes are lightly pubescent to hirtellous (especially along the angles), or glabrous.

**AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION:** Generally higher elevations in the Chiricahua and Pinal mountains than var. *metcalfei* or *mutabilis*.

**ILLUSTRATIONS:** Color photo of *Senecio neomexicanus* (Rickett 1970).  
Color photo of the species *S. neomexicanus* (L.E. Epple 1995: pl. 433).

**TOTAL RANGE:** At the full species level, *Senecio neomexicanus* is perhaps the most abundant *Senecio* in the southwest region. It is widespread in New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona and Mexico (Rickett 1970). The variety *toumeyii* is only found in Arizona.

**RANGE WITHIN ARIZONA:** Chiricahua and Huachuca mountains in Cochise County. Also reported from the Pinal Mountains in Gila County.

### **SPECIES BIOLOGY AND POPULATION TRENDS**

**GROWTH FORM:** Herbaceous perennial.

**PHENOLOGY:** April to August for the species.

**BIOLOGY:**

**HABITAT:** Most commonly found in oak chaparral, and sometimes in pine forest.

**ELEVATION:** Throughout Arizona, the species *S. neomexicanus* is found from 3,000 to 9,000 feet (915-2,745 m). A specimen of the variety *S. n.* var. *toumeyii*, was collected in 1973 in the Chiricahua Mts. at 5,200 ft (1586 m). Based on unpublished record in the Heritage Data Management System (AGFD, accessed 2004), the var. *toumeyii* ranges from 5,500 – 9,200 ft (1676-2805 m).

**EXPOSURE:**

**SUBSTRATE:** Loose rocky soil in coniferous woodlands.

**PLANT COMMUNITY:** Coniferous woodlands.

**POPULATION 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:** Biology, habitat, and distribution studies needed.**LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP:** USFS - Coronado National Forest.**SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION****REFERENCES:**

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**MAJOR KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIVIDUALS:****ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

**Revised:** 1999-11-22 (RHB)  
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