

Rare Plant Status Review: *Ambrosia monogyra*
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Background

Ambrosia monogyra is a perennial herb in the Asteraceae. This species is known in California from less than 20 occurrences in Riverside (1 occurrence), San Bernardino (1 occurrence), and San Diego Counties (15 occurrences); however, only 4 of these occurrences have been documented in the last 20 years, all from San Diego County. In addition, the only known occurrence from San Bernardino County (near Rialto) may have been extirpated as this area is mostly urbanized or cleared (pers. comm. A. Sanders). This species is also known from outside of California in Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Baja California, and Sonora, Mexico. *A. monogyra* can be locally common in sandy alluvial terraces and stream beds; however, this type of habitat is declining rapidly due to stream modifications, as well as sand and gravel mining.

A. monogyra blooms May through November and occurs most commonly in desert washes and ravines in Sonoran desert scrub and chaparral, between 10 and 500 meters in elevation. *A. monogyra* can be most readily distinguished from other *Ambrosias* by having wings around the middle of the burs and a later flowering period.

A. monogyra is currently known in California from approximately 17 occurrences (with only 4 occurrences documented in the last 20 years) and requires review for inclusion in both the CNPS Inventory and the CNDDDB.

Recommended Actions

CNPS: Add to CNPS List 2.2

CNDDDB: Add to CNDDDB as G5 / S2.2

Please review the draft CNPS Inventory record below, respond Yes or No on the proposal to add this species to the Inventory and CNDDDB, and provide any edits/comments. If responding No, please provide supporting information.

Draft CNPS Inventory Record

***Ambrosia monogyra* Torr. & Gray**

Asteraceae

"singlewhorl burrobrush"

List 2.2

Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego; Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Baja California, Sonora Mexico and elsewhere

010A [Dulzura/3211667], 010B [Jamul Mountains/3211668], 010D [Otay Mountain/3211657], 011A [National City/3211761], 011D [Imperial Beach/3211751], 022D [La Mesa/3211771], 083C? [San Jacinto Peak/3311676], 107B [Devore/3411724]

Chaparral, Sonoran desert scrub / sandy; elevation 10-500 meters.

Perennial shrub, blooms August-November.

See *Madrono* 49: 143 (2002) for taxonomic treatment.