

Rare Plant Status Review: *Poa diaboli*
Misa Ward (CNPS) and Roxanne Bittman (CNDDDB)
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Background

Poa diaboli was possibly first collected by David Keil in 1998. He and Robert Soreng described this new species in *Madrono* 50(4): 300-306 (2003). This interesting species occurs only in the San Luis Range, San Luis Obispo County. The authors note that the total distribution of this narrow endemic may be less than 15 sq km. *Poa diaboli* is known only from about 5 occurrences and requires review for inclusion in both the CNPS Inventory and CNDDDB. The *Madrono* abstract is included below.

Poa diaboli is described as a new and rare species of *P.* subsect. *Madropoa* from the coastal mountains of southern California. Its breeding system is like that in species of *Poa* previously said to be partially gynodioecious. However, in species of *Poa* with the corresponding breeding system syndrome, plants that are totally pistillate-flowered are rare and possibly only late-flowering individuals. We conclude that the breeding system of these species of *Poa* is better classified as a new subset of gynomonocism, here termed sequentially adjusted gynomonocism. Subtypes of gynomonocism in the grasses, and in *Poa*, are outlined.

Recommended Actions

CNPS: Add to CNPS List 1B

CNDDDB: Add to CNDDDB as G1 / S1.2

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

Poa diaboli Soreng and Keil

"Diablo Canyon blue grass"

List 1B / RED 3-2-3

San Luis Obispo

222A [Port San Luis / 3512027], 247D [Morro Bay South / 3512037]

Chaparral (mesic), cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, closed-cone coniferous forest / shale, sometimes burned areas; elevation 120-400 meters.

Perennial herb (rhizomatous and stoloniferous), blooms March-April.

Known from approximately five occurrences in the San Luis Range. Not in *The Jepson Manual*. See *Madrono* 50(4): 300 (2003) for original description.