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NEW RECORDS OF VASCULAR PLANTS FROM THE SANTA  
MONICA MOUNTAINS, CALIFORNIA, AND ADJACENT  
PARTS OF LOS ANGELES AND VENTURA COUNTIES

Michael H. Grayum and Daryl L. Koutnik

*Abstract.*—Thirty-one species of vascular plants, 16 of them indigenous, are reported for the first time from the Santa Monica Mountains. Six of these records establish major disjunctions in the overall range of the species concerned, and are thus of considerable biogeographical interest. New information is presented for nine additional species from these mountains, and five significant collections are recorded from other parts of Los Angeles and Ventura counties. *Geranium rotundifolium*, *Lupinus luteus*, and *Glinus radiatus* are reported as adventive for the first time from California; *Lewisia rediviva* var. *rediviva* is reported as new to southern California. In addition to the above, *Hieracium argutum* ssp. *argutum*, *Eriogonum citharaeforme*, *Allium lacunosum*, *Calystegia malacophylla*, and *Marah fabaceus* are reported for the first time from Los Angeles County, and *Dichondra occidentalis*, *Navarretia pubescens*, and *Poa fendleriana* are reported as new to Ventura County.

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This paper presents the distilled results of over ten years of collecting in the Los Angeles area by the authors and various colleagues. Most of the significant collections recorded herein are from the Santa Monica Mountains, extending from the vicinity of Glendale, Los Angeles County, westward to near Camarillo, Ventura County, as that is the only mainland region in this area for which a modern floristic treatment is available as a point of reference (Raven and Thompson 1977). Work is reportedly underway, however, on a flora of Los Angeles County (W. C. Martin pers. comm.) and a florula of the San Gabriel Mountains (R. F. Thorne pers. comm.).

Reference standards for the remainder of Ventura and Los Angeles counties are *A California Flora* by Munz and Keck (1959) and the supplement thereto (Munz 1968), and Munz's (1974) southern California flora. In addition, regional journals and local herbaria (SFV, LA, RSA/POM) have been consulted. All specimens are deposited in the herbarium at California State University, Northridge (SFV) and/or at the University of California, Davis (DAV). A few collections are cited which are not our own.

Part I: Additions and Emendations to the Flora of the  
Santa Monica Mountains

The recent flora of Raven and Thompson (1977) has been used as a stan-

dard. Species are listed in the order in which they would appear in that work. All are reported for the first time, unless otherwise specified.

*Cheilanthes covillei* Maxon (Pteridaceae). Rock crevices, Boney Ridge, Ventura Co.: Koutnik *et al.* 600 (DAV).

*Marsilea vestita* Hook. & Grev. (Marsileaceae). Abundant in vernal pool with *Ammannia*, etc., near Los Angeles R., Sepulveda Basin, Los Angeles Co.: Grayum & Koutnik 882 (SFV). The site is about 100 yd outside the arbitrary boundary of Raven and Thompson (1977).

*Juniperus californica* Carr. (Cupressaceae). Raven and Thompson (1977) noted the occurrence of a single individual of this interior species near Cornell Corners, Los Angeles Co., but could not be certain whether it was indigenous or planted. The presence of several other inland species in the same vicinity—e.g., *Calochortus venustus*, *Haplopappus lineariifolius*, and *Stanleya pinnata* (Keeley and Keeley 1971)—suggested that this might represent a native occurrence, and this specimen has been the object of regular pilgrimages by local plant enthusiasts. In 1978, the second author discovered a small population of junipers in a nearby draw (Koutnik 441, DAV), in which we counted about 20 reproductive individuals. Although the entire region was devastated by a major brushfire shortly thereafter, the indigenous status of *Juniperus californica* in the Santa Monica Mountains flora is firmly established.

*Opuntia prolifera* Engelm. (Cactaceae). Occurs sparingly on low ridges in the saltmarsh at Pt. Mugu, Ventura Co. (Grayum *et al.* 959, SFV), where it is being aggressively overrun by *Carpobrotus*. Also found on the lower northeastern slopes of Conejo Mt., Ventura Co.: Koutnik *s.n.*, 10 Mar 1978 (DAV).

*Nemacladus ramosissimus* Nutt. (Campanulaceae). Formerly known from a single collection from Cornell Corners, Los Angeles Co. We report two additional records, both from the Cold Creek drainage system, Los Angeles Co.: Grayum *s.n.*, 8 May 1971 (SFV) and Grayum *s.n.*, 20 May 1971 (SFV).

*Cannabis sativa* L. (Cannabidaceae). Occasionally adventive, as in sandy soil along Malibu Crk., Triunfo Cyn. (Grayum & Gillen *s.n.*, 15 Aug 1978, SFV).

*Silene verecunda* Wats. ssp. *platyota* (Wats.) Hitchc. & Maguire (Caryophyllaceae). Growing on sandstone outcrops along main ridge, E of Castro Pk., Los Angeles Co. (Grayum & Koutnik 1517, DAV), where it occurs with *Hieracium argutum* and *Hemizonia minthornii*. An unexpected and perplexing locale for this taxon, which is otherwise restricted to elevations in excess of 5000 ft in the inner coast ranges.

*Atriplex rosea* L. (Chenopodiaceae). Fairly common weed in the central

part of the range, as in Old Topanga Cyn., Los Angeles Co. (*Gordon et al.* 619, SFV).

*Iva axillaris* Pursh (Compositae). Dry, weedy flats near the entrance to Century Ranch, Los Angeles Co.: *Grayum & Koutnik* 845 (SFV) and *Koutnik* 494 (DAV).

*Hemizonia minthornii* Jeps. (Compositae). This rare shrub was for many years known only from the type locality—sandstone outcrops in the Santa Susana Pass region, on the Los Angeles/Ventura county line between the San Fernando and Simi valleys. It was first reported in the Santa Monica Mts., from E of Castro Pk., Los Angeles Co., by Grace Heintz (pers. comm.) of the California Native Plant Society in 1977, and ultimately collected at that site by the present authors: *Grayum & Koutnik* 1514, Aug 1978 (DAV). In the meantime, a series of exploratory trips to suitable sites in adjacent areas revealed the presence of *H. minthornii* at the following localities: knoll at margin of Chatsworth Reservoir (*Grayum & Koutnik* 923, 10 Dec 1977, SFV); along fire-road on southwestern slope of Calabasas Pk., Santa Monica Mts. (*Grayum & Koutnik* 949, 22 Jan 1978, SFV); and Charmlee Park, Santa Monica Mts. (*Koutnik et al.* 594, 31 Dec 1979, DAV; *Koutnik & Balch s.n.*, 13 Jul 1980, DAV); all of these sites are within Los Angeles County. We also re-collected it at the type locality (*Grayum & Koutnik* 957, 11 Feb 1978, SFV). At all of these stations the plant is locally abundant, even dominant on sandstone, although exceedingly inconspicuous even in full flower owing to its unprepossessing aspect.

The Castro Pk. locale was independently discovered by Tanowitz and Gordon (1980), who also reported a collection from the Simi Hills.

*Artemisia biennis* Willd. (Compositae). A northwestern species, formerly recorded only from Pt. Mugu. Now widespread along Malibu Crk., from Tapia Park (*Grayum et al.* 899, SFV) to the sea at Malibu Lagoon (*Gordon et al.* 764, SFV), Los Angeles Co.

*Senecio aphanactis* Greene (Compositae). An inconspicuous native annual. Northeastern slopes of Conejo Mt., Ventura Co. (*Koutnik s.n.*, 10 Mar 1978, DAV), and on ridge east of Decker Rd., Ventura Co. (*Koutnik* 191, DAV).

*Dimorphotheca sinuata* DC. (Compositae). Weed along Decker Rd. N of Mulholland Hwy., Los Angeles Co.: *Koutnik & Dawes* 493 (DAV).

*Cnicus benedictus* L. (Compositae). Long established at Tapia Park, Los Angeles Co.: *Feldman & Grayum* 107 (SFV).

*Centaurea solstitialis* L. (Compositae). Weedy ground, Century Ranch, Los Angeles Co.: *Grayum et al.* 842 (SFV).

*Hieracium argutum* Nutt. ssp. *argutum* (Compositae). Sandstone outcrop along main ridge, E of Castro Pk., Los Angeles Co., with *Hemizonia*

*minthornii*, *Silene verecunda*, and *Eriastrum densifolium*: Grayum & Koutnik 1516 (DAV). This taxon is known from Santa Rosa and Santa Cruz islands, and on the mainland north from Santa Barbara Co. Although our plants have both dark and light glands on the involucre, they match material from the Santa Barbara vicinity in this regard and are thus assigned to ssp. *argutum*.

*Dichondra occidentalis* House (Convolvulaceae). Locally abundant, but quite inconspicuous, on bare slopes after fires: La Jolla Valley, Ventura Co. (Gordon *et al.* 1243, SFV). This is apparently the first collection of this native species from Ventura Co. It seems to occur in burned-over Coastal Sage Scrub along most of the range, as we also observed this species in Deer Cyn., Ventura Co., and on the ridge between Tuna and Topanga canyons, Los Angeles Co. There does not seem to be any previous record of *D. occidentalis* from mainland Los Angeles County; however, we neglected to make a collection.

*Cardamine oligosperma* Nutt. (Cruciferae). Growing along Decker Rd., N of Mulholland Hwy., Los Angeles Co.: Koutnik 152 (DAV). A wide-ranging native species.

*Lepidium latifolium* L. (Cruciferae). Locally abundant weed in low areas along Malibu Crk., Century Ranch, Los Angeles Co.: Grayum *et al.* 841 (SFV). Munz (1974) does not treat this species in his southern California flora, although he mentioned an Orange Co. station in his California flora (Munz and Keck 1959).

*Quercus wislizenii* A. DC. var. *frutescens* Engelm. (Fagaceae). Formerly known in the Santa Monica Mountains from two collections: Triunfo Pass, Ventura Co., and Santa Ynez Cyn., Los Angeles Co. To these can now be added a third record: summit of Saddle Pk., Los Angeles Co. (Grayum & Koutnik 950, SFV). Only a single plant could be located in spite of a thorough reconnaissance of the area.

*Geranium rotundifolium* L. (Geraniaceae). Abundant and well established along the lower reaches of Temescal Cyn., Los Angeles Co.: Gordon *et al.* 990 (SFV). This European species has not been previously reported from California.

*Glycyrrhiza lepidota* Pursh (Leguminosae). Streamside thicket along Malibu Crk., Century Ranch, Los Angeles Co. (Grayum & Gillen *s.n.*, 15 Aug 1978, SFV).

*Lupinus luteus* L. (Leguminosae). Weed, growing along Decker Rd. N of Mulholland Hwy., Los Angeles Co.: Koutnik & Dawes 490 (DAV). This is the first California record of this European native.

*Linum grandiflorum* Desf. (Linaceae). Weed, growing along Decker Rd. N of Mulholland Hwy., Los Angeles Co.: Koutnik & Dawes 491 (DAV).

*Malva nicaeensis* All. (Malvaceae). Becoming a fairly common weed, as at Pt. Dume, Los Angeles Co.: Caplin 88 (SFV).

- Orobanche fasciculata* Nutt. (Orobanchaceae). A species more characteristic of higher elevations and more inland sites, it can now be reported from the Santa Monica Mts.: Cornell Corners, Los Angeles Co. (*Koutnik 439*, DAV).
- Navarretia pubescens* (Benth.) H. & A. (Polemoniaceae). The inclusion of this species in the flora of southern California has hitherto been based on a single collection from Malibu Lake, Santa Monica Mts., in 1932. Raven and Thompson (1977) questioned the native status of that specimen; we herein confirm that the occurrence of this species in the Santa Monica Mts. is indigenous with the report of two additional collections: vicinity of Monte Nido, Los Angeles Co. (*Grayum s.n.*, 10 Jun 1971, SFV), and Conejo Grade, Ventura Co. (*Koutnik 499*, DAV). The latter collection is the first of this species from Ventura Co. It is not otherwise known from S of San Luis Obispo Co.
- Eriogonum citharaeforme* Wats. var. *agninum* (Greene) Reveal (Polygonaceae). Small population in rather arid, sparse chaparral, drainage of Cold Crk., Los Angeles Co.: *Grayum s.n.*, 19 May 1971 (SFV). The first collection of this native annual from Los Angeles Co.
- Eriogonum crocatum* A. Davids. (Polygonaceae). A local endemic, formerly known only from the Conejo Mt. vicinity, Ventura Co. It has recently been discovered on a rock outcrop west of Decker Cyn., Ventura Co., within a few hundred yards of the Los Angeles Co. line: *Koutnik 145* (DAV).
- Claytonia spathulata* Dougl. ex Hook. (Portulacaceae). Collected at Seminole Hot Springs, Los Angeles Co. (*Vincent 327*, SFV), and growing with the following species near Lake Eleanor, Ventura Co. (*Koutnik 235*, DAV). Not heretofore known from the outer coast ranges south of San Luis Obispo Co. The subspecific identity of our material could not be determined with confidence.
- Lewisia rediviva* Pursh var. *rediviva* (Portulacaceae). Rocky outcrops on ridges east and west of Decker Cyn., Ventura Co.: *Koutnik 190* (DAV). This is the first report of this taxon from Ventura Co. and, indeed, from southern California. It has not been previously known from S of San Luis Obispo Co.
- Torilis nodosa* (L.) Gaertn. (Umbelliferae). Pt. Dume, Los Angeles Co.: *Koutnik 417* (DAV). The first record of this European weed from mainland southern California.
- Eleocharis coloradoensis* (Britt.) Gilly (Cyperaceae). Abundant with *Marsilea* and *Ammannia* in large vernal pool near Los Angeles R., Sepulveda Basin, Los Angeles Co.: *Grayum & Koutnik 877* (SFV). Forming large fairy rings. The site is only about 100 yards from Raven and Thompson's (1977) boundary.
- Festuca microstachys* Nutt. var. *microstachys* (Gramineae). Yet another

- characteristically interior species found at Cornell Corners, Los Angeles Co.: *Koutnik 444* (DAV).
- Briza minor* L. (Gramineae). Weed at Tapia Park, Los Angeles Co.: *Grayum s.n.*, 3 May 1971 (SFV).
- Muhlenbergia asperifolia* (Nees & Mey.) Parodi (Gramineae). Growing among rocks along Malibu Crk. at Tapia Park, Los Angeles Co.: *Grayum s.n.*, 28 Sep 1971 (SFV).
- Crypsis schoenoides* (L.) Lam. (Gramineae). This is the correct name for the species usually treated as *Heleocholea schoenoides* (L.) Host in California floras. The species formerly known as *Crypsis niliaca* Fig. & de Not. is now correctly *C. vaginiflora* (Forsk.) Opiz (see Hammel and Reeder 1979). *Crypsis schoenoides* was not recorded from southern California by Munz and Keck (1959), however a collection from Bouquet Cyn., Los Angeles Co., was cited by Munz (1968). Perplexingly though, Munz (1974) did not treat the species at all in his southern California flora. Presently, *C. schoenoides* is widespread, in Los Angeles Co. at any rate, where it grows abundantly on the muddy margins of reservoirs and catch-basins: Chatsworth Reservoir (*Grayum et al. 915*, SFV), Hansen Dam (*Grayum et al. 855*, SFV); see also Hammel and Reeder (1979). Raven and Thompson (1977) cite a single collection of *C. schoenoides* from the Santa Monica Mts., but confusingly list *C. niliaca* in synonymy. It is clearly evident from their description, however, that the plant in question is *C. vaginiflora*. The following collection, therefore, represents the first record of *C. schoenoides* from this range: *Grayum & Gillen s.n.*, 15 Aug 1978 (SFV), Malibu Crk., Triunfo Cyn., Los Angeles Co.
- Panicum capillare* L. (Gramineae). Occasional weed, as along Malibu Crk., Triunfo Cyn., Los Angeles Co.: *Grayum & Gillen s.n.*, 15 Aug 1978 (SFV).
- Allium lacunosum* Wats. (Liliaceae). Growing in dry, open chaparral near Saddle Rock, Los Angeles Co.: *Koutnik 431* (DAV). Not previously known from S of Santa Barbara Co.
- Potamogeton crispus* L. (Potamogetonaceae). European species, collected in three feet of water in Malibu Crk., Century Ranch, Los Angeles Co.: *Grayum & Koutnik 844* (SFV, DAV). First collection from mainland Los Angeles Co.

Among the above previously unreported collections are six which represent significant disjunctions: *Silene verecunda* ssp. *platyota*, *Hieracium argutum* ssp. *argutum*, *Eriogonum citharaeforme*, *Claytonia spathulata*, *Lewisia rediviva* var. *rediviva*, and *Allium lacunosum*. In addition, new validity is lent to the once dubious disjunct status of *Navarretia pubescens*. To these may be added a fair number of northern taxa reported by Raven and Thompson (1977) as reaching their southern coastal limits in disjunct Santa Monica Mountains populations: *Lonicera hispidula*, *Mi-*

*croseris douglasii* ssp. *tenella*, *Senecio breweri*, *Sedum spathulifolium*, *Phacelia imbricata*, *P. egena*, *P. longipes*, *Delphinium parryi* ssp. *blochmaniae*, *Galium cliftonsmithii* (Dempster 1979), *Boykinia elata*, *Tauschia hartwegii*, *Alisma triviale*, *Festuca elmeri* var. *conferta*, *F. eastwoodae*, *Calochortus venustus* and, not inconceivably, *Coreopsis calliopsidea*, *Hemizonia pungens*, and *Poa palustris*. The list is rather extensive, and merits a careful biogeographical analysis.

## Part II: Significant Collections from Other Parts of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties

- Glinus radiatus* (R. & P.) Rohrb. (Aizoaceae). Not heretofore reported from California. Collected on caked mud behind Hansen Dam, San Fernando Valley, Los Angeles Co.: *Grayum & Grayum 903* (SFV). Collectors using California floras would routinely identify this as *G. lotoides* (which itself is not known from southern California). The two species are indeed similar, but may be distinguished inter alia by seed color: reddish-brown in *G. radiatus*, blackish-brown in *G. lotoides* (Correll and Johnston 1970). Unlike *Glinus lotoides*, *G. radiatus* is indigenous to North America, although the Hansen Dam population is likely to be adventive.
- Silene californica* Durand (Caryophyllaceae). Munz and Keck (1959) recorded this species from Los Angeles Co.; however, it is omitted from Munz's (1974) southern California flora. It does occur, however, under oaks in Los Pinetos Cyn., San Gabriel Mts.: *Gordon & Grayum 889* (SFV).
- Calystegia malacophylla* (Greene) Munz ssp. *pedicellata* (Jeps.) Munz (Convolvulaceae). Rare, in chaparral near summit of Oat Mt., Santa Susana Mts., Los Angeles Co.: *Grayum & Hannum s.n.*, 30 May 1974 (SFV). Apparently the first record of this species from Los Angeles Co.
- Marah fabaceus* (Naud.) Greene var. *agrestis* (Greene) Stocking (Cucurbitaceae). Common on the north side of Oat Mt., Santa Susana Mts., Los Angeles Co.: *Grayum & Felt s.n.*, 22 May 1974 (SFV). Apparently the first record from Los Angeles Co.
- Poa fendleriana* (Steud.) Vasey (Gramineae). Near summit of Alamo Mt., Ventura Co.: *Gordon et al. 440* (SFV). Not previously reported from anywhere between the Sierra Nevada of Tulare Co. and the San Bernardino Mts. A first report for Ventura Co.

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