

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

Plant Abstract

Element Code: PDFAB32020

Data Sensitivity: No

CLASSIFICATION, NOMENCLATURE, DESCRIPTION, RANGE

NAME: *Peteria thompsoniae*

COMMON NAME: Thompson's Peteria

SYNONYMS:

FAMILY: Fabaceae

AUTHOR, PLACE OF PUBLICATION: Watson, Sereno. American Naturalist 7(5): 300. 1873.

TYPE LOCALITY: Southern Utah: "...Kanab..."

TYPE SPECIMEN: Academy of Natural Sciences, PH00023010. E.P. Thompson, #SN, July-August 1873. (Type?)

TAXONOMIC UNIQUENESS: There are two species of *Peteria* in Arizona. *P. scoparia* was described from a specimen collected in the Petrified Forest NM, and ranges from NE Arizona to western Texas. *P. thompsoniae* is found in northern Arizona and extends north and westward.

DESCRIPTION: **Plant:** perennial, rhizomed; spines stipular; taproot often swollen; stem 2-6 dm, **Leaves:** odd-1-pinnate; leaflets 13-21, elliptic or obovate; stipules spiny or 0, **INFLORESCENCE:** raceme, spike-like, terminal, often glandular-hairy, **Flowers:** calyx 11-15 mm, tube cylindric, generally darkly glandular-puberulent, sometimes bulged on 1 side near base, lobes < or > tube, upper pair fused 1/2 or more; corolla generally 15-20(25) mm, pink or white; 9 filaments fused, 1 free; style tip finely hairy around stigma, hairs often hidden by pollen, **Fruit:** legume, 4-6 cm, glabrous, dehiscent, oblong, ± flat but plump, leathery; base stalk-like; Seeds 1-several, often ± reniform, generally hard, smooth

AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION: *P. thompsoniae* can be distinguished from *P. scoparia* by leaflets 4mm or wider; stems simple or very sparingly branched above the base; calyx 5mm long or longer; and corolla 16 to 25mm long.

ILLUSTRATIONS:

Herbarium Mount: <http://swbiodiversity.org/imglib/seinet/DES/DES00011/DES00011235.jpg>

Herbarium Mount: <http://swbiodiversity.org/imglib/seinet/DES/DES00011/DES00011704.jpg>

Herbarium Mount:

http://swbiodiversity.org/imglib/seinet/Fabaceae/herbarium_sheets/fabace_peteria_thompsonae105811D2.jpg

TOTAL RANGE: Discontinuous over much of the Intermountain area, including a disjunct population in Owyhee County, Idaho, and a single collection in southeastern Inyo County in California. It is found in the southern Nye and Clark Counties of Nevada, and from seven counties in southern and central Utah. In Arizona, it occurs in the northern parts of Mohave and Coconino Counties, but there is a disjunct collection from Apache County.

RANGE WITHIN ARIZONA: Arizona Strip: Northern Coconino County and northern Mohave County. Also, a single collection near St. Johns, Apache County.

SPECIES BIOLOGY AND POPULATION TRENDS

GROWTH FORM: Herbaceous perennial, rhizomed, taproot often swollen.

PHENOLOGY: From Arizona collections: Flowers from mid April to mid-August; Fruits have been noted from the end of June to mid-August.

BIOLOGY:

HABITAT: Dry washes, clay and sandy flats, rock outcrops and talus slopes in northern desert scrub and pinyon-juniper communities.

ELEVATION: From Arizona collections: 2440 - 7865 feet (740 -2400m).

EXPOSURE: Not specified, but likely open.

SUBSTRATE: Arizona collections have been made from clay and gypseous soils, sandstone outcrops and from drainage bottoms. Specific formations mentioned include the Red Moenkopi and the Chinle. Sandy alluvial plains have been noted in collections from other states, and in Utah the plant occurs mainly on sandstone and shale.

PLANT COMMUNITY: Mohave and other desert scrub communities, sometimes with *Coleogyne* (Black-brush), up to pinyon-juniper. Other species noted from *P. thompsoniae* collections sites include mesquite, *Larrea*, *Yucca*, *Purshia*, *Chrysothamnus*, *Gutierrezia*, *Opuntia*, *Hilaria*, *Ephedra*, *Artemisia*, *Eurotia*, *Eriogonum*, *Atriplex confertifolia*, and *Sclerocactus whipplei*.

POPULATION TRENDS: There are 17 collection sites in Arizona, and these were collected from the early 1960's to present. While there is no systematic data on populations or their trends, several of the collection records note that the plant is locally common. The number of collections, it's rather disjunct distribution (noting the collection near St. Johns) and wide elevational range suggest that the total distribution is not yet well known and the species is not likely to be imperiled in Arizona.

SPECIES PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT STATUS: None.
STATE LIST STATUS: None.
OTHER STATUS: None.

MANAGEMENT FACTORS: Unknown, although as a legume could be susceptible to grazing and/or browsing pressure.

CONSERVATION MEASURES TAKEN: None.

SUGGESTED PROJECTS:

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP: Most collections are from BLM lands on the Arizona Strip; others are on USNPS lands (Lake Mead NRA and Grand Canyon Parashant NM); and a few are from private land.

SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION**REFERENCES:**

- Calflora, http://www.calflora.org/cgi-bin/species_query.cgi?where-taxon=Peteria+thompsoniae, accessed 10/3/2013.
- JStor| Global Plants, accessed 10/3/2013, <http://plants.jstor.org/specimen/ph00023010?s=t>.
- Kearney, Thomas H. and Robert H. & Peebles. 1960. Arizona flora. University of Cal. Press, Berkeley. p. 441.
- NatureServe Explorer. 2013. www.NatureServe.org/explorer, accessed 10/3/2013.
- Tropicos, accessed 10/3/2013, <http://www.tropicos.org/Name/13067217>.
- Welsh, S. L., N.D. Atwood, S. Goodrich and L.C. Higgens, eds. 1993. A Utah Flora. Brigham Young University, Provo. 2nd ed. P.450.

MAJOR KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIVIDUALS:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The type specimen was collected by Mrs. Ellen Thompson, sister of John Wesley Powell, near Kanab, Utah, in 1873.

Revised: 1989-11-08 ()
2013-10-4 BDT

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AGFD Plant Abstract

-4-

Peteria thompsoniae

Arizona Game and Fish Department. 20XX (= **year of last revision as indicated at end of abstract**). X...X (= **taxon of animal or plant**). Unpublished abstract compiled and edited by the Heritage Data Management System, Arizona Game and Fish Department, Phoenix, AZ. X pp.