

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

**Plant Abstract**

**Element Code:** PDPLMOD050

**Data Sensitivity:** No

**CLASSIFICATION, NOMENCLATURE, DESCRIPTION, RANGE**

**NAME:** *Phlox amabilis* Brand

**COMMON NAME:** Arizona Phlox

**SYNONYMS:**

**FAMILY:** Polemoniaceae

**AUTHOR, PLACE OF PUBLICATION:** Brand, Das Pflanzenreich IV. 250: 74.1907.

**TYPE LOCALITY:** Prescott Mountain District, Arizona, United States of America.

**TYPE SPECIMEN:** HT:? E. Palmer 391, 1876. IT: NY-336972.

**TAXONOMIC UNIQUENESS:** The species *amabilis* is 1 of 70 species in the genus *Phlox*.

**DESCRIPTION:** A low perennial herb usually about 10cm (4 in) tall that produces pink, tubular flowers with deeply notched petals. This plant has a taproot, the herbage glandular-pubescent throughout; stems mostly 5 to 15 cm (2-38 in) tall. One or few from the base usually simple except in the branched inflorescence. The leaves are linear to narrowly oblong, 10 to 30 mm (0.4-1in) long. The flowers are in a loose compound cyme; calyx 8-10 mm long intercostally flat or only slightly carinate; corolla tube 12-18 mm long the lobes 6-9 mm long, pink sometimes notched at the end. Stamens and style nearly as long as the corolla tube.

**AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION:** *Phlox amabilis* is a low plant with thick oblong leaves and when as is often the case its corolla lobes are deeply notched, it bears a striking resemblance to *P. woodhousei*. In the former however, the stamens and styles are nearly as long as the corolla tube, whereas in the latter they are much shorter than the tube. Both *P. amabilis* and *P. longifolia* have taproots and usually deciduous leaves, whereas *P. cluteana* (Navajo Mountain phlox) has a slender rhizomatous rootstock and evergreen leaves (Roth 1999).

**ILLUSTRATIONS:** Color photo of Isotype specimen (NY-336972, NYBG in <http://207.156.243.8/emu/vh/specimen.php?irn=216667>)

**TOTAL RANGE:** Arizona endemic.

**RANGE WITHIN ARIZONA:** Mainly in southern Coconino, Mohave, Navajo and Yavapai counties, but also found in Gila and Graham counties.

**SPECIES BIOLOGY AND POPULATION TRENDS**

**GROWTH FORM:** Herbaceous perennial subshrub, shrub or forb/herb.

**PHENOLOGY:** March to May.

**BIOLOGY:**

**HABITAT:** Open exposed limestone-rocky slopes within pinyon-juniper woodlands and ponderosa pine-gambel oak communities.

**ELEVATION:** 3,500 – 7,800 ft (1068-2379 m). (AGFD, HDMS unpublished database records accessed 2003; SEINet accessed 2005).

**EXPOSURE:** collected on 3-8% south-facing slope; E, SE to W-facing slopes.

**SUBSTRATE:** Limestone-rocky slopes; clay soil, volcanic silt.

**PLANT COMMUNITY:** Pinyon-juniper woodlands and ponderosa pine-gambel oak communities; grama grassland. Associated species include: *Artemisia tridentata* (Big sagebrush), *Bouteloua gracilis* (Blue Gramma), *Bouteloua* sp., *Cercocarpus montanus* (Colorado Birch-leaved Mountain-mahogany), *Echinocereus coccineus* (Hedgehog cactus), *Eriogonum racemosum* (Red-root Wild Buckwheat), *Gutierrezia sarothrae* (Broom Snakeweed), *Juniperus deppeana* (Alligator Juniper), *Nolina microcarpa* (Sacahuista Bear-grass), *Opuntia* sp., *Opuntia engelmannii* (Prickly-pear), *Pinus ponderosa* (Ponderosa pine), *Poa fendleriana* (Muttongrass), *Purshia stansburiana* (Stansbury Cliffrose), *Quercus* (oak), *Spharalcea* (Globemallow), and *Yucca baccata* (Fleshy-fruit Yucca). (Collections in SEINet, accessed 2005).

**POPULATION HISTORY AND 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:**

**LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP:** BIA – Yavapai-Prescott Reservation; DOD – Military Reservation; USFS - Prescott and Tonto National Forests; State Land Department; Private. Possibly on the Grand Canyon National Park and Navajo Nation.

**SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION****REFERENCES:**

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**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

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