

BACOPA ROTUNDIFOLIA
ROUNDLEAF WATER-HYSSOP
SCROPHULARIACEAE

Status:

US Fish & Wildlife Service: None.

Agency Status: None.

Heritage Rank:

Global: G5 State: S1

WYNDD Plant List: Peripheral (Low
Conservation Priority)

Description: Roundleaf water-hyssop is a fibrous-rooted perennial forb with prostrate to floating pubescent stems 10-40 cm long. Leaves are opposite, obovate to nearly orbicular, 12-27 mm long and 12-23 mm wide, sessile to clasping, entire, and palmately veined. The inflorescence consists of 1-4 flowers on stalks 1-1.5 cm long in each axil of the uppermost leaves. The calyx is 4-4.5 mm long in flower and consists of 5 unequal sepals (the outer 3 are oval and the inner 2 are narrowly lance-shaped). The corolla is 4.5-10 mm long, radially symmetrical, bell-shaped, 5-lobed, and white with a yellow throat. Fruits are subglobose capsules 3.5-5.5 mm long (Gleason and Cronquist 1991; Great Plains Flora Association 1986; Cronquist et al. 1984).

Synonyms: None.

Identification Comments: Round, opposite leaves, prostrate growth form, and aquatic habitat are distinctive.

Similar Species: *Gratiola neglecta* is an annual with glandular-pubescent stems, oblanceolate leaves, and tubular flowers with white lobes and a yellow tube. *Veronica*

anagallis-aquatica has elongate, axillary racemes of blue, 4-petaled flowers.

Flowering/Fruiting Period: June-September.
Reproduces by seed.

Distribution: Occurs primarily from Indiana to Montana, south to Mississippi and Texas, with disjunct populations in Idaho, California, Virginia, Maryland, northern Mexico, Paraguay, and Argentina. In Wyoming, known from the Black Hills and southeastern plains in Crook and Laramie counties.

Habitat: An aquatic plant found in shallow, mud-bottomed pools and the banks of drying ponds. All Wyoming populations are found in mud along drying ponds or in reservoirs.

Management Considerations: This species may be introduced in Wyoming, or a recent immigrant following white settlement. Barrett and Strother (1978) have documented the appearance of this species as a pest in cultivated rice fields in California since the 1920s. The origin of the Wyoming populations is not known at present, but due to the recent discovery of the plants (all since 1982) our populations may be adventive.

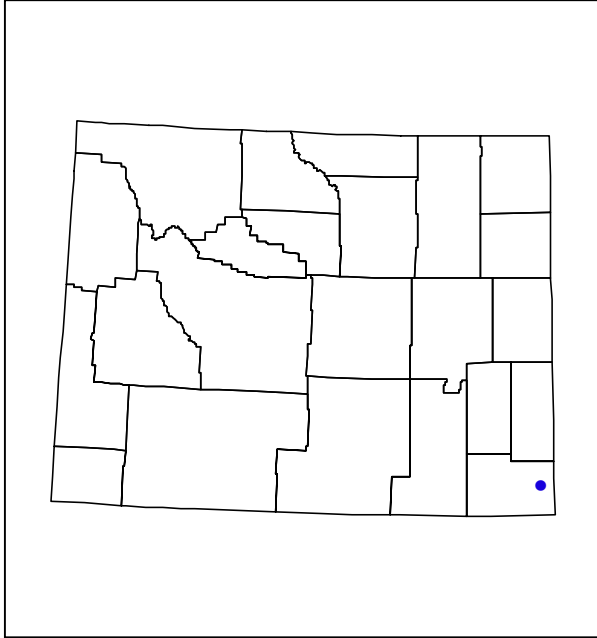
Occurrences in Wyoming: Known from 3 occurrences in Wyoming, all observed between 1982-1994.

Abundance: Not known.

Trends: Not known.

Protection status: All known occurrences are found on state or private lands.

Threats: May be impacted by development of wetland sites and vernal pools.



Wyoming distribution of *Bacopa rotundifolia*.

Managed Areas: All known Wyoming populations are on state or private lands.

References:

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