**EUPHORBIA EXSTIPULATA VAR EXSTIPULATA**  
**SQUARE-SEEDED SPURGE**  
Family: Euphorbiaceae

**Status:**  
US Fish & Wildlife Service: None.  
Agency Status: None.

**Heritage Rank:**  
Global: G5T5  State: SH  
WYND Plant List: Disjunct  
Medium Wyoming Significance

**Description:** Square-seeded spurge is a 0.5 to 2.5 dm tall, taprooted, annual herb. The herbage is green and sparsely hairy. The stem is single and erect, with the branches curving upward from the base. The leaves are opposite, 1 to 5 cm long by 2 to 10 mm wide, linear to upside-down lance-shaped, and finely toothed along the upper half to two-thirds. The stipules are absent or present only as small, gland-like structures. The "flowers" are crowded in the leaf axils and at the ends of the stem and branches. The cyathium ("flower cup") has 5 white, 2 to 3 lobed, petal-like appendages. The capsules are 2.3 to 2.8 mm long and short-hairy (Dorn 2001, Cronquist 1997).

**Synonyms:** *Euphorbia aliceae*

**Similar Species:** *Euphorbia dentata* does not have petal-like appendages, and the leaves are often wider. *Euphorbia hexagona* does not have toothed leaves, and its capsules are 3 to 5 mm long.

**Flowering/Fruiting Period:** Flowering and fruiting occur from July through September.

**Distribution:** Square-seeded spurge is known from Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico, south to northern Mexico and western Texas, with a disjunct population in the Hartville Uplift of Platte County, Wyoming.

**Habitat:** Found primarily on limestone alluvium across its range (Cronquist et al. 1997). The Wyoming population probably was found on limey sandstone at 4800 feet.

**Occurrences in Wyoming:** Known from a single historical record in Wyoming, last observed in 1894. It is possible that it was introduced.

**Abundance:** Unknown; may be extirpated in Wyoming. This species was not relocated in a 1994 survey of the Hartville Uplift area.

**Trends:** Unknown; may be extirpated.

**Protection status:** No occurrences are known from lands receiving special management attention.

**Threats:** Not known.

**Managed Areas:** May occur on lands managed by the BLM Casper Field Office.
References:


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Updated: 01-24-02