Desert Biscuitroot

Lomatium foeniculaceum (Nutt.) Coult. & Rose

Apiaceae family

Native to United States

Uses: Important forb for Sage Grouse habitat. The seeds are a food source for chicks and the flowers attract insects for chicks. The root can be used as cereal flour and the leaves are edible as well.

Environmental Conditions: Occurs at mid-to-high elevation (5500-11000 feet). Grows in dry ecosystems in well-drained, rocky soils and sunny, open flats. Grows well in hot, dry summers and cold winters.



Life History: Perennial herb

Active Growth: Plant emerges in early spring (April), produces seed in May-June, and senesces back underground to a large taproot. The large taproot competes for water once the plant is established for three to four years.

Characteristics:

Inflorescence: Single umbel per stem. Umbellets are pilose and contain up to 15 flowers.

Flowers: Flowering occurs in April-early June. Five petals, yellow, glabrous, five stamens, filaments yellowish, anthers yellow.

Seed: 0.1 in. long, 0.05 in. wide, ellipsoid, pubescent, 2 seeds per fruit body. Seed production occurs in May and June.



Stems: Flowering stem can be 10 in. tall. Single or multiple stems emerge from the base. Leaves form a basal rosette.

Leaves: Alternate, three to four times pinnately divided. Primary division is opposite, secondary divisions are alternate. Petioles are often purplish at the base and sheath the stem. Leaves are approximately 20 cm long, 10-15 cm wide, and pilose.

Roots: Thick bulbous taproot.





Sources:

Green, M. 2016. Plant Propagation Protocol for *Lomatium foeniculaceum*. Accessed January 14th 2019. https://courses.washington.edu/esrm412/protocols/LOFO.pdf

Missouri Plants. 2019. *Lomatium foeniculaceum* (Nutt.) C. & R. Accessed January 14th 2019. <u>http://www.missouriplants.com/Yellowalt/Lomatium foeniculaceum page.html</u>

Utah State University Extension. 2019. Desert Parsley. Range Plants of Utah. Accessed January 14th 2019. <u>https://extension.usu.edu/rangeplants/forbsherbaceous/desert-parsley</u>

USDA-NRCS. 2019. Plant Profile: *Lomatium foeniculaceum* (Nutt.) J.M. Coult. & Rose- desert Biscuitroot. United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service. Accessed January 14th 2019. <u>https://plants.usda.gov/core/profile?symbol=LOFO</u>

Sulphur-Flower Buckwheat

Eriogonum umbellatum Torr.

Polygonaceae Family

Native to United States

Uses: Important food source for birds and small mammals, especially sage grouse. Flowers attract insects, which are a vital food source for



sage grouse chicks. It can be used for erosion control, honey production, and was commonly used as an herbal remedy by Native Americans for various ailments.



Environmental Conditions: Occurs on dry, open and often rocky slopes. It occurs at elevations ranging from 2500- 10000 feet. It requires well-drained soils with low fertility. Requires more water during establishment but is drought tolerant once established.

Life History: Low growing woody perennial

Active Growth: Spring and summer. Blooms in early summer.

Characteristics:

Flowers: Color ranges from yellow to orange or reddish. Flower stems height ranges from 3-16 inches. Flowers occur in dense umbels.

Fruit: Smooth, brown-black seeds that are 0.08-0.2 inches in diameter.



Stem: The plant can form low, broad mats. Usually grows to be 8-12 inches high and up to 2 feet in diameter.

Leaves: Usually 1 inch long, elliptical, shiny green on top, and woolly underneath.

Roots: Deep taproot.

Sources:

USDA-NRCS. 2019. Plant Profile: *Eriogonum umbellatum* Torr.- sulphur-flower buckwheat. United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service. Accessed January 14th 2019. <u>https://plants.usda.gov/core/profile?symbol=ERUM</u>

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