

***Astragalus diaphanus* var. *diurnus***

Fabaceae

South John Day milkvetch

Gerald D. Carr

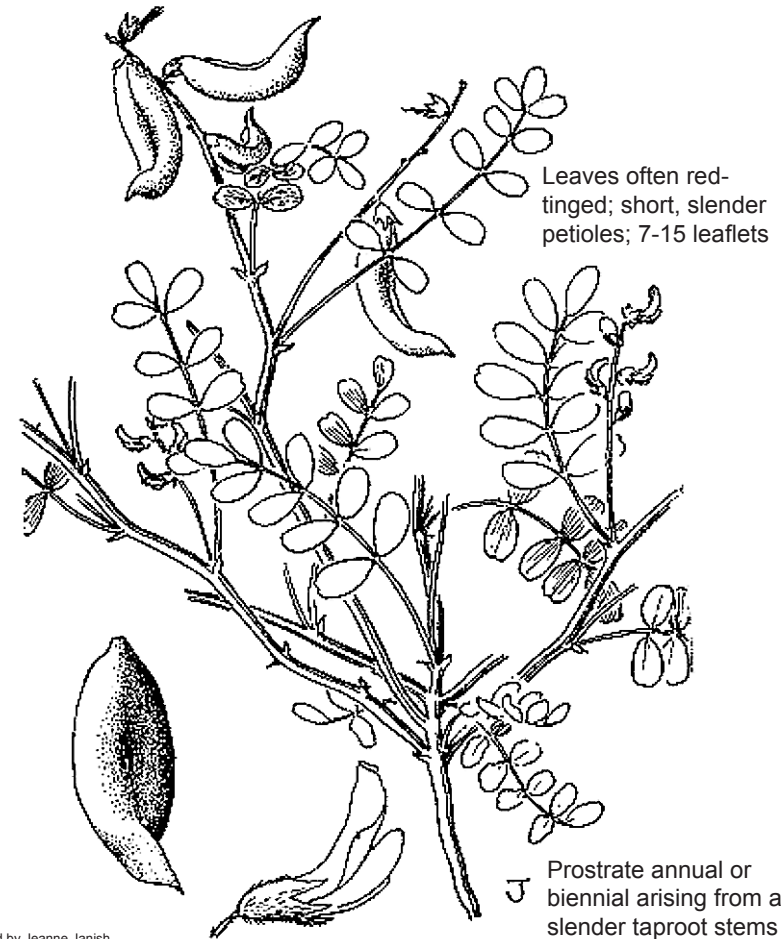


Aaron Liston



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Leaves often red-tinged; short, slender petioles; 7-15 leaflets

Prostrate annual or biennial arising from a slender taproot stems 3-10, 15-40 cm high

Illustrated by Jeanne Janish  
ILLUSTRATED FLORA OF THE  
PACIFIC STATES  
Abrams, 1944  
courtesy of Stanford University Press.

Prostrate annual or biennial arising from a slender taproot. Stems 3-10, rarely numerous, 15-40 cm high, red tinged, strigulose. Leaves 2-5 (6) cm long, often red-tinged; short, slender petioles; 7-15 leaflets, oblong or obovate, 3-12 mm long, glabrous above, strigulose beneath. Inflorescence a raceme; loosely (3) 7-15 flowered; peduncles 1-5.5 cm long, mostly shorter than the leaves. Flowers 4-9 mm long; petals whitish; banner lavender-veined, 7-9 mm long; wings 6-8 mm long; keel purple-tipped, 4-6 mm long; calyx stigulose with black or black and white hairs, 3.5-4.5 mm long. Pods ovoid, distinctly inflated, 1-3 cm long, 3-9 mm in diameter, sulcate dorsally, purple-green, becoming translucent; intruded sutures forming a scarcely developed partition.

**Lookalikes**  
*Astragalus diaphanus*

**differs from featured plant by**  
its fruits that are strongly curved and not inflated

best survey times  
J|F|M|A|M|J|J|A|S|O|N|D

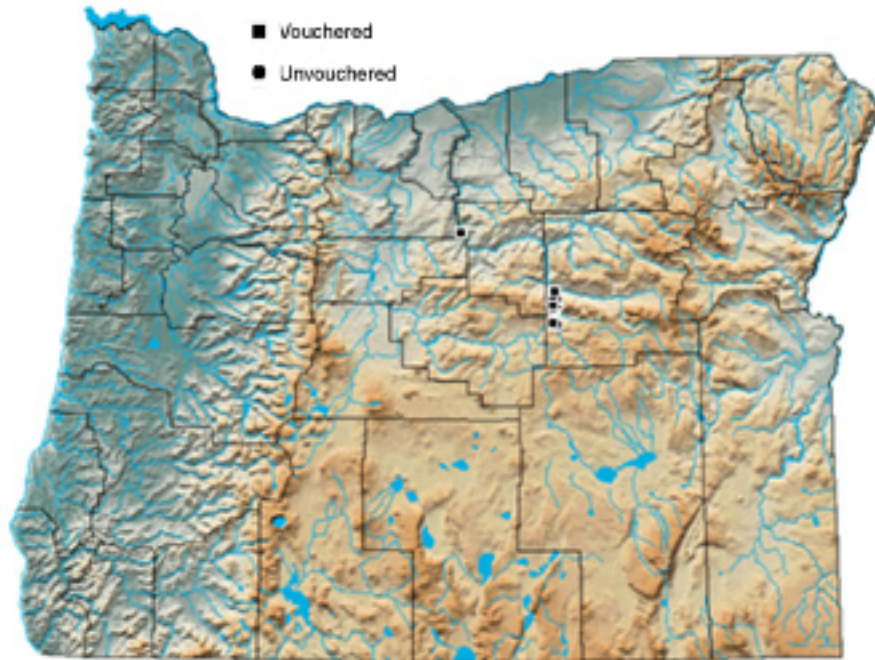


***Astragalus diaphanus* Douglas ex Hook.  
var. *diurnus* (S. Watson) Barneby ex M. Peck**

South John Day milkvetch

PLANTS symbol: ASDI2

August 2019 status Oregon:LT; ORBIC: List 1



**Distribution:** Valley of the South John Day River, Grant Co.

**Habitat:** Shallow gravely soil over basalt, sandbars or sandy banks of intermittent rivers.

**Elevation:** 700–1400 m

**Best survey time (in flower):** mid-April – June

**Associated species:**

- Artemisia tridentata* (Big sagebrush)
- Artemisia rigida* (Scabland sagebrush)
- Eriogonum compositum* (Arrowleaf buckwheat)
- Eriogonum sphaerocephalum* (Rock buckwheat)
- Eriophyllum lanatum* (Common woolly sunflower)
- Juniperus occidentalis* (Western juniper)
- Ericameria nauseosa* (Rubber rabbitbrush)
- Lewisia rediviva* (Bitterroot)
- Salvia dorrii* (Purple sage)

