

*Ageratina adenophora* (Spreng.) R. King & H. Robinson, CROFTEN WEED, STICKY SNAKEROOT, THOROUGHWORT. Subshrub to shrub, branches mostly erect, 50–300+ cm tall; shoots pubescent with nonglandular and stalked glandular hairs, pleasant smelling when crushed. **Stems:** ± cylindric, green turning purplish red, hairy, glandular hairs with red spheric heads. **Leaves:** opposite decussate, simple, petiolate, without stipules; petiole channeled (flattened), 10–43 mm long, becoming reddish to pinkish brown, pubescent and densely glandular-hairy; blade widely trowel-shaped (trullate) to ovate, 25–110 × 15–90 mm, broadly tapered at base, regularly serrate to dentate on margins, acute or slightly acuminate at tip, pinnately veined with 3 principal veins at base sunken on upper surface and raised on lower surface, upper surface dull dark green and sparsely pubescent to glabrate, lower surface pubescent and glandular-hairy. **Inflorescence:** heads, in terminal, flat-topped to slightly domed cymelike arrays, head discoid, ca. 5 mm across, 50–89-flowered, bracteate, pubescent and densely glandular-hairy with glandular heads becoming reddish; lateral branches alternate or the lowest ones opposite; bract subtending branch or branchlet leaflike, ovate or obovate to oblanceolate or linear, 3–35 × 0.8–18 mm decreasing upward, petiolate at basal nodes to sessile above; bract subtending peduncle and 1–6 bracts along axis linear to narrowly elliptic, 2–5 × 0.3–0.5 mm, puberulent and glandular-hairy, often glabrous on upper (inner) surface; peduncle 3.5–12 mm long, pubescent and glandular-hairy; **involucre** cylindric bell-shaped, 3.5–3.8 × 4.5–5.5 mm, phyllaries 20–28 in 2–3 series, erect, narrowly lanceolate to oblanceolate, 3–4.3 × 0.5–0.8 mm, narrowly acute to acuminate, often with 2 pale green to whitish veins in lower 2/3 to 3/4, narrowly membranous on margins, pubescent and glandular-hairy on exposed surfaces; receptacle convex becoming domelike in fruit, without bractlets (paleae). **Disc flower:** bisexual, radial, 1.2–1.5 mm across, 4.7–5.5 mm long; **calyx (pappus)** of 5 bristles, colorless, barbed above midpoint; **corolla** 5-lobed, 2.8–3.8 mm long; tube cylindric, 1.6–2.2 × 0.2–0.3 mm, greenish; throat bell-shaped, 1.1–1.4 × 0.5–0.7(–0.8) mm, white; lobes deltate, 0.4–0.6 mm, white, densely papillate on upper surface; **stamens** 5, fused to corolla at base of throat; filaments < 0.5 mm long; anthers fused into cylinder surrounding style, included, basifixed, dithecal, 0.9–1.1 mm long, white to pale yellow, appendage at tip = a ± deltate membrane ca. 0.15 mm long, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen pale yellow to creamy white; **nectary** cupping base of style, short-crownlike, ca. 1 mm tall, golden yellow, having 5 teeth; **pistil** 1; ovary inferior, oblanceoloid and sometimes slightly curved, 1–1.3 mm long, pale green to light brown, 5-angled, glabrous, 1-chambered with 1 ovule; style 4.5–5.5 mm long, white, 2-branched, the stigmatic branches exserted, ascending to arching, 1.7–2.3 mm long, papillate on 2/3 or above midpoint. **Fruit:** cypselae, narrowly oblanceoloid to oblong, 1.4–1.7 mm long, satiny black, 5-ribbed, straight to slightly curved, with concave faces, glabrous, having a whitish callus at base; pappus of 5 colorless bristles with upward-pointing barbs (antrorse), bristles easily broken leaving behind a brownish crown on fruit tip. Early February–early August.

Naturalized. Shrub escaped from cultivation and occurring especially in the Hollywood Hills but also along canyon bottoms growing in rich soil, such as in Rustic Canyon and Griffith Park. *Ageratina adenophora* has a long flowering season and potentially might be found in bloom year-round if plants receive supplemental water and grow in a warm

microhabitat. Snakeroot is the only local member of Asteraceae that has opposite leaves and showy white discoid heads.

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