

Alopecurus saccatus Vasey, PACIFIC MEADOW FOXTAIL. Annual, fibrous-rooted, cespitose, several-stemmed at base, erect to decumbent, 12–40 cm tall; shoots with 3–5 cauline leaves, glabrous. **Stems (culms):** cylindric, to 1.7 mm diameter, internodes 14–62 mm long (the shortest at base), the nodes 0.6–2.2 mm long, cinnamon to brown; internodes hollow. **Leaves:** alternate distichous, simple with sheath; sheath closed for 1.5–5 mm at base, 39–65 mm long, veiny but membranous between veins and on margins, generally loosely sheathing internodes but inflated on flag leaf, without lobes (auricles) at top; ligule membranous, obtuse to truncate, 1.5–5.5 mm long, encircling stem with margins overlapping at base and continuous with sheath margins; blade linear to lanceolate-linear, 10–140 × 1.2–4 mm, the widest near base, flat, minutely toothed on margins, narrowly acute at tip, parallel-veined with veins prominently raised on upper surface and raised slightly on lower surface, dull, scabrous along veins on both surfaces. **Inflorescence:** spikelets, in terminal, condensed panicle, panicle cylindric, in range 15–42 × 5.5–10 mm, spikelets with 1 floret, bracteate, glabrous, awned (exserted from spikelet); peduncle 75–145 mm long, ridged; rachis concealed by short branches (to 3–4 orders) with erect spikelets; stalk of spikelet 0.5–1.5 mm long, minutely scabrous. **Spikelet:** ± elliptic strongly compressed side-to-side, 2.8–3.8 × 1.3–1.6 mm, breaking from stalk below glumes; **glumes** 2, ± equal, ± lanceolate, 2.7–3.6 × 0.7–0.8 mm, keeled, 3-veined, pilose with ascending hairs (especially along midvein), membranous on margins, acute at folded tip; **lemma** asymmetrically ovate, 2.7–3.5 × 0.8–1.3 mm, keeled and fused along margin to ca. midpoint, strongly flattened but laterally convex-concave, yellowish tan becoming lead-colored at tip, obscurely 3-veined or 5-veined, obtuse to truncate at tip, the awn arising from keel 0.6–1 mm above base, glabrous, the awn 3–6 mm long, bent ca. at midpoint and having terminal segment generally arched, becoming dark purplish red; **palea** absent. **Flower:** bisexual; **perianth (lodicules)** not observed; **stamens** 2, free, exserted; filaments threadlike, 2.7–3 mm long, white; anthers dorsifixed, dithecal, oblong, 0.7–1(–1.9) mm long, yellowish orange, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen yellowish orange; **pistil** 1, 2.5–4.3 mm long; ovary superior, asymmetrically obovoid, 1.1–1.9 × 0.5–1 mm, tannish, constricted at base, glabrous, 1-chambered with 1 ovule; styles 2, fused at base 0.1–0.3 mm, the branches equal, with tips slightly exserted beyond lemma, 1.8–2.4 mm long, narrowly featherlike (plumose) with ascending hairs ca. 0.15 mm long, stigmatic most of length. **Fruit:** achene (caryopsis).

Native. Annual known from Triunfo Canyon (SMM) from a collection by Carl Wishner. *Alopecurus saccatus* closely resembles timothy (*Phleum pratense* L), which was listed by consultants as being in range, but possibly this was a misidentification (spikelets of *Phleum* break above the glumes).

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