

Camissoniopsis micrantha (Spreng.) W. L. Wagner & Hoch, MINIATURE SUN CUP.

Annual, taprooted, rosetted, several-stemmed at base, principal branches decumbent from base or sometimes the initial shoot erect with ascending basal branches, 10–60 cm tall; shoots variously hairy with erect to spreading straight hairs (\pm hirsute to tapered or finely hirsute, hirtellous) to villous, sometimes glandular-pubescent in inflorescence. **Stems:** cylindrical, hirsute (glandular-pubescent), initially green aging straw-colored becoming reddish on older stems with surface layer peeling (exfoliating) thereby appearing glabrous. **Leaves:** helically alternate, simple, petiolate (basal leaves) and sessile (cauline leaves), without stipules; petiole to 20 mm long, indistinct from blade, < 2 mm long (cauline leaves) and often partially fused with base of fruit (bractlet); blade narrowly elliptic (basal leaves) or elliptic to lanceolate (cauline leaves), $10\text{--}75(-120) \times 1.5\text{--}14(-17)$ mm, tapered (basal leaves) or rounded to \pm cordate (cauline leaves) at base, minutely and remotely toothed and wavy on margins, acute to rounded at tip often with a reddish point (mucronate), margins sometimes aging reddish, pinnately veined with pale green midrib raised on lower surface aging tannish or reddish, \pm hirsute. **Inflorescence:** leafy spike of axillary flowers, bracteate, hirsute to \pm villous and sometimes also minutely glandular-hairy. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, in range 3.8–10.5 mm across; hypanthium above ovary, funnel-shaped, 1.2–2 mm long, 0.8–1.5 mm wide at top, internally with several hairs near base, **nectary** at base of hypanthium surrounding style base; **sepals** 4, free or partially fused at tips as pairs when they split from pressure of expanding petals along suture lines, reflexed, individually lanceolate to narrowly triangular, in range $1.5\text{--}3.5 \times 0.4\text{--}1$ mm, green with reddish tip (not apiculate), externally hirsute to \pm villous; **petals** 4, spreading, obovate, in range $1.5\text{--}4.5 \times 2.5\text{--}3.7$ mm, yellow, sometimes with 1–2 red spots near base, rounded to slightly notched at tip; **stamens** 8 in 2 sets, free, arising from hypanthium rim, \pm dimorphic; filaments erect, 0.8–1.5 mm long (opposite sepals) and 0.5–1 mm long (opposite petals), yellow; anthers versatile, dithecal, 0.4–0.6 mm long, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen yellow, pollen grains nearly all triangular, shed singly (lacking viscin threads); **pistil** 1; ovary inferior, cylindrical slightly tapered base to tip, 10–15 mm long and ± 1 mm basal diameter, hirsute to \pm villous, 4-chambered, each chamber packed with a single stack of 14–28 ovules; style 2–3.5 mm long, yellow, with several hairs at base; stigma positioned at level of long-stamen anthers, spheroid-capitate, 0.5–0.6 mm diameter, papillate. **Fruit:** capsule, loculicidal, 4-valved, to 100-seeded, straight to tightly curved to form slightly more than 1 complete coil, 13–25 mm long, 1.1–1.8 mm thick at base tapered to 0.7 mm tip, 4-sided at maturity, hirsute to \pm villous and sometimes glandular-pubescent. **Seed:** \pm obovoid slightly compressed side-to-side, $0.7\text{--}1.1 \times 0.3\text{--}0.6$ mm, brown to dark brown, acute at base, obliquely truncate or obtuse at tip, faintly grooved along 1 edge, sometimes \pm angled on 1 edge (ventral). Spring.

Native. Annual considered rare in range, conclusively known from only a few collections, e.g., at Point Dume and in Griffith Park. *Camissoniopsis micrantha* cannot be easily identified, but is a strongly decumbent plant with principal branches radiating from the center and next to the ground. Many local specimens historically identified as *C. micrantha* were later annotated as *C. intermedia*, which typically is an upright plant.
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