

*Clinopodium douglasii* (Benth.) Kuntze, YERBA BUENA. Perennial herb, rhizomatous, fibrous-rooted, several-stemmed at base, mat-forming and spreading via short rhizomes, decumbent, < 10 cm tall; shoots 2-dimensional (plagiotropic) with only cauline leaves, ± hirsute to short-hirsute or gland-dotted, the nonglandular hairs often ± curved backward, the conspicuous glandular hairs with colorless spheric heads in slightly sunken pits (on blades), strongly aromatic like peppermint (*Mentha × piperita*); rhizome (= buried horizontal stem); adventitious roots nodal. **Stems:** conspicuously 4-ridged, < 2 mm diameter, square in ×-section, reddish to red-purple especially at nodes, short-hirsute and with scattered, sessile, spheric glandular hairs + sparse, minute, capitate glandular hairs. **Leaves:** opposite decussate, simple, petiolate with pair connected by narrow ledges across node, without stipules; petiole channeled, 4–6.6 mm long, often purplish, densely hirsute; blade broadly ovate-deltate, 5–27 × 5–25 mm, truncate to rounded at base, low-crenate to low-serrate on margins with 3–6 teeth per side, inconspicuously notched at tip, pinnately veined with principal veins sunken on upper surface and raised on lower surface, ± dull with short hairs, upper surface sparsely hairy, lower surface conspicuously gland-dotted and with the longer, backward-curved hairs especially along veins and on margins, minutely stalked glandular hairs along principal veins, lower midrib sometimes purplish. **Inflorescence:** cymes paired at certain nodes (not verticil-like), axillary, cyme 1(–3)-flowered (in range appearing solitary), flowers elevated above each leaf, bracteate, puberulent; peduncle < petiole, puberulent; bractlets at top of peduncle 2 (= bractlets of future pedicles if 3-flowered), ascending to spreading, linear-lanceolate, 1–1.5 mm long, with short hairs; pedicel more slender than peduncle and finely ridged, 6–10 mm long, with radiating, stiff, short hairs. **Flower:** bisexual, bilateral, 3.5–4 mm across, short-villous with spreading fine hairs on outer surfaces; **calyx** 5-lobed, cylindric aging urn-shaped, 4–4.7 mm long; tube conspicuously 13–15-ribbed above midpoint, green aging purple, minutely pubescent with nonglandular hairs mostly along ribs and minute, stalked glandular hairs between ribs; lobes acute, 0.5–0.9 mm long, ± keeled with prominent midvein; **corolla** 2-lipped, 5-lobed, 6–11 mm long; tube-throat straight-cylindric but becoming expanded at base, 4.5–8 mm long, ± white at base, throat portion funnel-shaped, 2–2.5 mm wide at orifice, whitish aging lavender-pink, somewhat ribbed, conspicuously short-villous on exposed outer surfaces; often with several glands and minute stalked glandular hairs, internally with conspicuous white hairs in most of throat; lips ca. 2 mm long, short-hairy, internally short-papillate; upper lip 2-lobed, lobes broadly ovate with sinus 0.4–0.5 mm deep, slightly notched on lobes; lower lip somewhat reflexed, 3-lobed, with truncate-obovate central lobe 1.3–1.5 mm long and ovate lateral lobes ca. 0.8 mm long, pale lavender-pink aging darker, villous from tube-throat boundary to middle of lobe; **stamens** 4, fused to upper corolla throat, the lower pair arising 1.5–1.8 mm from sinus and the upper pair 1 mm from sinus, dimorphic; filaments 1.1–1.9 mm long (short stamens) and 1.3–2.5 mm long (longer stamens), whitish, glabrous; anthers dorsifixed, with 2 fertile, divergent sacs opening separately, sacs 0.5–0.6 mm long, lavender aging purple, glabrous, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen white; **nectary disc** base beneath ovary, 0.3–0.4 mm long, green to greenish yellow; **pistil** 1; ovary superior, strongly 4-lobed, the lobes ovoid to hemi-ellipsoid, 0.2–0.3 mm long, green, glabrous and without sessile glands, 2-chambered, each lobe with 1 ovule; style exerted and positioned opposite anthers of short stamens,

attached to ovary base at center of ovary lobes (gynobasic) and thicker than lobes, 5.5–9.7 mm long, colorless at base to pale lavender above midpoint, coiled approaching tip, stigma next to upper lip of corolla, unequally 2-lobed, lobes flat, the shorter lobe triangular and 0.25–0.4 mm long, the larger lobe narrowly ovate and 0.5–0.8 mm long, papillate above midpoint. **Fruits:** nutlets, 4, 1 conspicuously larger, roundish in outline, 0.6–0.8 mm long, somewhat lens-shaped (large nutlet) and 3-sided (smaller nutlets), glossy brown often with darker marks. Mid-June–mid-July.

Native. Trailing perennial herb found in range in shady riparian woodland of coastal canyons (SMM), most frequently observed in Rustic Canyon. *Clinopodium douglasii*, called yerba buena and formerly treated as a species of *Satureja*, is strongly aromatic due to glands on the leaves producing monoterpenes, as in cultivated mints (*Mentha*).

*Clinopodium douglasii* forms a pair of solitary axillary flowers at a node rather than the dense verticils of typical Lamiaceae. Although yerba buena has the potential of forming three-flowered cymes, in our materials the bractlets form for the lateral flowers but only one-flowered cymes have been observed to date.

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