

Delphinium parryi A. Gray subsp. *parryi*, PARRY'S LARKSPUR, BLUE LARKSPUR, SAN BERNARDINO LARKSPUR. Perennial herb, 1-stemmed, rosetted, erect to ascending, 25–100 cm tall; shoots with basal leaves and cauline leaves but rosette leaves withered or absent by anthesis, short-pubescent with mostly appressed, downward-arching hairs. **Stems:** cylindrical and weakly ridged, to 5 mm diameter, green with paler stripes (fiber bundles), aging purplish red near base; hollow. **Leaves:** helically alternate, deeply palmately lobed, long-petiolate, without stipules; petiole mostly 5-sided, 10–100 mm long, > blade, flaring and channeled at base, pubescent, hollow; blade sometimes 5–8-sided in outline, 10–35 × 20–70 mm, 3-divided at base with lateral divisions shortly forked, subsequent divisions mostly midway to tip, ultimate divisions linear to toothlike, 2–20 × 1.5–3 mm, cordate to truncate at base, palmately veined, sparsely and finely pubescent. **Inflorescence:** panicle of racemes or racems, terminal, racemes ascending and 80–420 mm long, each raceme 5–23-flowered, flowers widely spaced, internodes 10–35 mm long increasing 3–5× in fruit, bracteate, pubescent; bract subtending branchlet leaflike and petiolate, petiole 10–130 mm long, blade 30–40 mm long, at lower nodes palmately divided, at upper nodes with fewer, longer divisions and ultimate division linear to toothlike, 1–35 × 1.5–2 mm, folded upward from midveins, sparsely and minutely pubescent; bractlet subtending pedicel or on lower pedicel linear, to 12 mm long; pedicel cylindrical, at anthesis 5–35 mm long increasing 3–5× in fruit, with 2 bracteoles subtending flower and subopposite, resembling lower bractlet but shorter. **Flower:** bisexual, bilateral, 18–38 mm across, spurred, light to dark violet or violet and white or pale violet (rare individuals with pure white flowers); **sepals** 5, petal-like, violet to white, dimorphic; lateral and lower sepals spreading, obovate to elliptic, 11–19 × 5.2–8 mm, slightly white with green veins at base, rounded at tip (upper 2 sepals) and acuminate at tip (lower 2 sepals), with a slight thickening near tip on upper, pubescent surface and a corresponding indentation on lower, glabrous surface; upper sepal with limb + spur, limb spreading, oblanceolate, 8–20 × 4.5–8.2 mm, with spur bent backwards, spur 8–10.5 mm long, typically violet (but appearing greenish striped from green of enclosed petal spurs); **petals** 4, dimorphic; lateral petals clawed, claw 4–5.2 mm long, greenish and lobed-toothed at thickened base, whitish above base grading to violet above, limb bent downward in front of stamens and pistils, obovate, 6–8 × 4–5.7 mm, deep to pale violet, slightly 2-lobed with sinus 0.7–2 mm deep, densely villous on outward-facing (ventral) surface, sparsely villous on other surface; upper 2 petals spurred, spurs enclosed within sepal spur, tubular for 4–6.2 mm at base, curving upward, the tube light violet with green on lower side and above opening of spur with middle portion whitish, producing nectar, limb asymmetrically trowel-shaped (trullate) or ovate to elliptic, 4.5–6 × 2.5–3.3 mm, light to deep violet, with a slight lobe on lower margin, spurs almost as long as limb, **nectaries** at base, mostly glabrous but sometimes pubescent in midsection on inner (upper) surface; **stamens** 25–30, helically alternate, free; filaments unequal, strongly bent to position anthers on lower side of flower, flat and tapered to tip, 3.5–6 × 0.5–0.8 mm, whitish to pale green at base to violet above, mostly bent from midpoint outward and downward or some bent upward; anthers basifixed, dithecal, monomorphic or dimorphic, symmetric and oblong, 1.4–1.5 × 0.8–0.9 mm long, greenish yellow tinged with reddish purple (long anthers), or also asymmetric with 1 sac larger, 0.7–0.8 × 0.5–0.6 mm, purplish with green connective (short anthers, if present), longitudinally and sideways dehiscent; pollen white, sticky; **pistils** 3, free, narrowly lanceoloid, at anthesis 3.2–3.8 mm long; ovaries superior,

ovoid, $2-2.7 \times 1-1.3$ mm, green, densely short-strigose with slightly wavy, white hairs, 1-chambered with many ovules; style erect, 3–3.2 mm long, violet but whitish at base, tips curving slightly outward; stigma 2-lobed, appressed together, more deeply split on lower (ventral) side. **Fruits:** follicles, 3, dehiscent from top downward on inner side, ca. 25-seeded, erect with an outwardly curved beak (style), $8.5-16 \times 3.5-4$ mm (excluding \pm persistent beak), tan with dark brown to grayish brown veins forming a netlike texture, pubescent. **Seed:** \pm granular to D-shaped, wedge-shaped, or pyramidal + winged on edges, $1.5-2 \times 1-1.8$ mm, \pm black (dark brown or deep purple) to grayish brown and densely dark-spotted, wings grayish tan and sparsely to moderately dark-spotted, texture with mostly small, slightly convex to conic epidermal cells. Early March–late May.

Native. Perennial herb occurring occasionally on open slopes in chaparral. *Delphinium parryi* resembles in leaf the scarlet larkspur, which flowers during summer, but in typical populations *D. parryi* has dark violet flowers similar to *D. patens*. However, flower color varies considerably, and one population in Long Grade Canyon has flowers that are light violet and appears to have been mistaken for the named subspecies called Blochman's larkspur [subsp. *blochmaniae* (Greene) H. Lewis & Epling]. Parry's larkspur has not been studied locally in critical detail to determine whether subspecies *maritimum* occurs in the eastern part of the range.

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