

Dodecatheon clevelandii Greene subsp. *patulum* (Kuntze) H. J. Thompson, PADRE'S SHOOTING STAR. Perennial herb, rhizomatous, fibrous-rooted, rosetted, acaulous (scapose), 8–50 cm tall; shoots with only ascending basal leaves, glandular-hairy; rhizomes shallow, erect, white. **Leaves:** helically alternate, simple, petiolate, without stipules; petiole ± winged, to 40 mm long, white; blade oblanceolate to spatulate, typically 40–80 × 15–32 mm, long-tapered to petiole, entire below midpoint and weakly toothed and often wavy above midpoint, narrowly colorless on margins with minute glandular hairs, pinnately veined with only midrib slightly sunken on upper surface and somewhat raised on lower surface, with scattered, colorless, erect, glandular hairs < 1 mm long. **Inflorescence:** umbel, 1–16-flowered on long peduncle, flowers nodding, bracteate, minutely glandular-hairy; peduncle cylindric, 30–450 mm long; bractlet subtending and sheathing each pedicel linear to long-acuminate, 10–18 mm long, decreasing inward (outer bractlets sometimes treated as an involucre), green; pedicel erect with unopened flower bud and developing fruit but nodding with open flower, cylindric, when nodding 15–25 mm long increasing to 3× and 0.8–1.5 mm diameter in fruit, purple-tinged, flexible aging stiff. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, shooting-starlike, 13–25 mm long; **calyx** 5(–6)-lobed, ± 6 mm long, green, with minute glandular hairs; tube bowl-shaped, 2–2.5 mm long; lobes erect in bud, after anthesis becoming reflexed, narrowly triangular, 2.7–4.5 mm long, ascending-appressed in fruit; **corolla** 5(–6)-lobed, lower tube fused with filaments, upper tube at base ascending and above inverted into 5(–6) reflexed lobes, with 5 pairs of yellowish spots or an irregular yellowish band at start of free portion of tube and 2 ± papillate bands, a deep purple or reddish purple basal band and above a bright yellow band that continues into lobes; lobes narrowly lanceolate to narrowly oblanceolate or oblanceolate-oblong, 10–20 × 3–5 mm, in range bright yellow at base then narrowly white (purplish pink or light to pale purple) and dark to light lavender or lilac (white) in upper part, minutely glandular-hairy especially on margins; **stamens** 5(–6), fused to lower corolla tube opposite corolla lobes, exerted, erect, 5.6–8 mm long; filaments fused into short tube, filament tube bearing a ± fusiform support for each anther, the lower region of support fleshy and finely coralloid-wrinkled, deep purple to lavender like lower portion of filament tube, the midregion of support with yellow, bandlike intervening portion of filament tube, the upper region of support (= connective) coarsely coralloid, darker purple than lower area; anthers free, dithecal, 3.2–5.5 mm long, lavender or bright violet and yellowish around slits aging straw yellow, longitudinally and inwardly dehiscent; pollen light yellow; **nectary disc** beneath ovary, ringlike, scarcely wider than pistil, greenish; **pistil** 1; ovary superior, ± spheric, 2 mm, green, with glandular hairs, 1-chambered with many ovules; style exerted 1–3 mm above anthers, long-tapered, ± 7 mm long, lavender, glabrous, persistent. **Fruit:** capsule on ascending to erect pedicel, dehiscent around midpoint (circumscissile while on plant) (when dried artificially opening from tip downward via 7–10 splits), many-seeded, subspheroid to oblong-ovoid, 9–19 × 6–9 mm, when immature light green-translucent above midpoint showing faint parallel veins when backlit, valves becoming light brown and glossy inside; style straight; seeds attached to subspheroidal central axis at base of fruit. **Seed:** irregular granular to rectanguloid, 1–1.9 mm long, dull brown, several-angled with facets collapsed, surface minutely netlike. Early December–mid-March.

Native. Perennial herb occurring fairly commonly on relatively undisturbed grassy slopes throughout the range. *Dodecatheon* is a scapose plant with a well-defined rosette of ascending leaves with one inflorescence per plant. It is called shooting star because the flower is inverted having a strongly reflexed perianth and the style and stamens forming the tip, resembling a badminton shuttlecock, or an idealized shooting star, and there is nothing in range that can be confused with this showy flower. In the driest years, *Dodecatheon clevelandii* may not be seen.

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