

Dudleya blochmaniae (Eastw.) Moran subsp. *blochmaniae*, BLOCHMAN'S DUDLEYA.

Perennial herb, ± leaf succulent, drought-deciduous (late spring), with a small corm, fibrous-rooted, with short-lived rosette, plant decumbent and spreading having ascending to erect, axillary inflorescences 3–10 cm tall; shoots with 3–12 bracts and leaves, withering before flowering, glabrous; corm spheric to taprootlike, in range < 4 mm diameter. **Leaves:** ± opposite, simple, short-petiolate, without stipules; petiole indistinct from blade; blade oblanceolate to spatulate, 18–40 mm long, 2–4 mm thick, tapered at base, entire, rounded to acute at tip, venation obscure, green and minutely spotted rose-purple (= solitary or small clusters of pigment cells in linear files), glistening from scattered, minute water-filled cells. **Inflorescence:** cyme, axillary from corm, 45–130 mm long with longer ones decumbent (± 1-sided when prostrate), typically several-forked, to 45-flowered, flowers erect, bracteate, glabrous, glaucous with whitish surface wax on young flower buds, bracts, and axes; peduncle cylindric, 25–80 mm long, ± fleshy, < 1 mm at base but thicker above, whitish to pinkish and minutely linear-speckled rose-purple; bracts along peduncle (“cauline leaves”) 8+, ± helically alternate (sometimes opposite near base of peduncle), sessile and often ± clasping, triangular-ovoid to lanceoloid, 2.5–9 × 1.5–6.5 mm, typically to 3 mm thick, pigmented like leaves; bractlet ± opposite flower or not, 2–5 mm long; pedicel at anthesis 0.5–4 mm long. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, 8–13 mm across and widely open; **calyx** 5(–6)-lobed, fused only at base; lobes erect and appressed to corolla, triangular-ovate, 1.5–3 × 1.2–2 mm, fleshy, light green and purple-spotted, glaucous on outer surface; **corolla** 5(–6)-lobed, fused at base; tube 0.5–1.2 mm long, greenish; lobes spreading, narrowly ovate, 4–6 × 2.4–2.7 mm, acute at tip, keeled with conspicuous midridge, white with crimson to purplish red midridge on keel and sometimes visible as midstripe on upper surface; **stamens** 10(12; 2× corolla lobes) in 2 whorls, whorls alternate and opposite corolla lobes and fused to short corolla tube; filaments erect, subequal, 3–4.5 mm long, tapered to a point at tip, pale greenish white or yellowish; anthers basifixed, dithecal, narrowly ovoid, 1.1–1.4 mm long, deep reddish orange to strawberry red, sometimes yellow-mottled, longitudinally dehiscent, aging purple after pollen discharged; pollen bright yellow; **nectaries** 5(–6), opposite corolla lobes at base, short-stalked, transversely elliptic to slightly 2-lobed, to 0.4 × 0.5–0.8 mm, pale yellowish green; **pistils** 5(–6), ascending, 3–5 mm long; ovaries superior and fused at base, each narrowly conic but somewhat flattened on lateral sides, light greenish, 1-chambered with ± 10 ovules attached to outer wall; styles = ovaries, 1.2–1.5 mm long, abruptly tapered to a minute, terminal stigma. **Fruits:** follicles, spreading, dehiscent along inner edge, each to 6-seeded, ovoid, 2.5–3 mm long, with persistent style to 15 mm long, before drying green with purple streaks on upper side. **Seed:** lanceoloid, ± 0.7 mm long, yellowish brown. Mid-May–late June.

Native. Ephemeral succulent perennial herb occurring on thin soil mostly on the westernmost edge of the range from Conejo Mountain to the coastal slopes. *Dudleya blochmaniae* is the smallest of our species. It appears with a small rosette of tiny leaves in mid-spring, and is best noticed when the plant produces its distinctive white flowers. Rosette leaves wither before flowering begins. This species can be found in relatively dense local patches but is considered a rare species. Blochman's dudleya lives on slopes

often with *D. lanceolata* and *D. verityi*, and interspecific hybrids have been documented from our range.

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