

Eremothera boothii (Dougl.) W. L. Wagner & Hoch subsp. *decorticans* (Hooker & Arnott) W. L. Wagner & Hoch, SHREDDING EVENING PRIMROSE. Annual, taprooted, ± rosetted, 1-stemmed at base, branched throughout, sometimes with slender branches forming later on lower stem, erect, in range typically < 40 cm tall; shoots with basal leaves and cauline leaves, basal leaves initially clustered but becoming separated by elongating internodes, subglabrous or inconspicuously short-strigose (especially on blade and bract margins), in range glandular hairs essentially absent. **Stems:** cylindrical, to 4 mm diameter, green typically aging purplish red with pimplelike bumps, later peeling (exfoliating) to expose satiny stem. **Leaves:** helically alternate, simple, petiolate, without stipules; petiole flat to slightly channeled on upper side, 1.5–40 mm long, fleshy, reddish purple, glabrous to short-strigose; blade lanceolate to elliptic, 15–100 × 4–32 mm, broadly tapered to tapered at base, entire to short-dentate on short-strigose margins, margins often reddish purple, acute to long-acuminate at tip, pinnately-veined with principal veins raised on lower surface, upper surface short-strigose to glabrous, lower surface glabrous. **Inflorescence:** leafy spike, terminal, nodding in bud, many-flowered, bracteate, in range short-strigose and typically lacking glandular hairs; bractlet subtending flower leaflike and short-petiolate, narrowly lanceolate, 12–30+ mm long, petiole to 2 mm long, blade entire to short-dentate on margins, long-acuminate at tip, short-strigose mostly on margins. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, in range (8–)12–16 mm across; hypanthium above ovary, narrowly bell-shaped or ± funnel-shaped, in range 3.7–4.3 mm long, ± fleshy, yellowish green with a purplish red band at base and often along exposed side, obscurely veined, short-strigose, internally short-pilose, **nectary** at base of hypanthium surrounding style base, producing copious nectar; **sepals** 4, free or generally partially fused at tips as pairs when they split from pressure of expanding petals along suture lines, reflexed, individually lanceolate, in range 7.5–9 × 1.8–2.3 mm, pale green sometimes aging pink to rose, 3-veined or 5-veined, glabrous; **petals** 4, spreading with corolla dish-shaped, obovate, (3–)6.5–8.5 × 3–5 mm, white, broadly tapered to tapered at base, entire, rounded at tip; **stamens** 8 in 2 sets, free, arising from rim of hypanthium, ± monomorphic; filaments erect, 4–5 mm long, white, tapered from base, glabrous, of inner whorl (opposite petals) with a narrow hook at tip resulting in shorter stature; anthers versatile, dithecal, oval, ± 2.2 mm long, cream-colored and flushed rosey red, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen cream-colored, pollen grains connected with minute threads (viscin threads); **pistil** 1; ovary inferior, cylindrical, 8–12 × 1 mm, green aging with purplish red spots, tapered from base to tip, somewhat curved, sparsely short-strigose, 4-chambered, each chamber with numerous ovules; style exerted, 11–12 mm long, white, with radiating white hairs on the portion of style within hypanthium, expanding below stigma into a weakly 4-lobed, pale green cup; stigma hemispheric, 1.3–1.6 mm diameter, light green, papillate. **Fruit:** capsule, dehiscent by 4 valves, many-seeded, cylindrical, in range (1.5)2.2–2.9 mm long, straight or somewhat arched to wavy, typically not twisted or coiled, gradually tapered from base to tip. **Seed:** ± ellipsoid to lanceoloid and somewhat angular, 1.4–2.1 mm long, of 2 forms, 0.5–0.7 mm wide (smooth) and 0.8 mm wide (papillate). Early April–mid-May.

Native. Annual observed during several springs on burns in the SH. *Eremothera boothii* subsp. *decorticans*, formerly treated as a species of *Camissonia*, is the only white-flowered *camissonia* known in range, and our plants appear to have longer and slightly

thicker fruits and leafier inflorescences in comparison with specimens collected elsewhere in southern California.

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