

Ericameria arborescens (A. Gray) Greene, GOLDENFLEECE. Shrub, highly branched with new, unexpanded axillary shoots from every node in canopy, principal branches ascending to erect, in range to 180 cm tall; shoots typically without tufted leaves, glabrous to glabrate, gland-dotted with glands slightly sunken and often glistening from clear resin, on shrub surface not sticky, becoming gray-green from dried resin, slightly aromatic when young shoots crushed. **Stems:** shallowly ridged, with 2 low ridges descending from each leaf, young stems green, straight, with a narrow groove between paired ridges, gland-dotted, aging cylindric with brown periderm. **Leaves:** helically alternate, simple, sessile, without stipules; blade suberect but aging ascending or spreading, narrowly linear to \pm threadlike, in range $9\text{--}45 \times 0.7\text{--}1.1$ mm, entire, acute to acuminate with minute point at tip, 1-veined and sunken only on upper surface, surfaces dotted with slightly sunken resin glands, upper surface with resin filling groove formed by sunken midrib. **Inflorescence:** heads, in terminal, flat-topped or domed arrays commonly of 3–8 heads, array $10\text{--}15 \times 8\text{--}18$ mm, head discoid, $4.5\text{--}5.5$ mm across, in range of 12–18 flowers (ray flowers absent), bracteate, glabrous, resinous; bract subtending peduncle narrowly ovate to scalelike and cupped, 1–1.5 mm long; peduncle 0.5–4 mm long, with bracts along axis grading to phyllaries; **involucre** cylindric to inversely conic, $4\text{--}4.5 \times 2\text{--}2.3$ mm, phyllaries 20–28 in 4–5 graded series from triangular-ovate and 0.9×0.7 mm (outer phyllaries) to lanceolate or linear and 3×0.6 mm, stiff (chartaceous) with raised, green midvein and acute at tip, cut-ciliate on margins, puberulent; receptacle without bractlets (paleae), pitted with narrow teeth to 1 mm long on rim surrounding central pits. **Disc flower:** bisexual, radial, 1.5 mm across; **calyx (pappus)** of 40–45 capillary bristles in 1 whorl, white; **corolla** 5-lobed, 3.7–4.1 mm long; tube + throat cylindric, 5-veined forming ribs to sinuses, tube 0.7–0.8 mm long, green, throat 1.9–2.1 mm long, grading from yellowish green at base to yellow at orifice, gradually expanding to 0.5–0.6 mm at orifice; lobes at anthesis recurved but becoming erect, acute, 0.7–1 mm long, yellow, thickened on margins; **stamens** 5, fused to top of corolla tube; filaments 1.3–1.6 mm long, yellowish; anthers fused into cylinder surrounding style, at anthesis partially exerted, basifixed, dithecal, 1.5–1.8 mm long, yellow aging darker, with acuminate sterile appendage at tip 0.4 mm long, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen yellow; **pistil** 1; ovary inferior, narrowly obovoid, ± 1.5 mm long, with ascending pubescence, 1-chambered with 1 ovule; style slightly exerted, 4–5.1 mm long, 2-branched, **nectary** swelling at style base, green, style yellowish below fork, the branches erect and appressed, ca. 1.2 mm long, yellow and papillate-hairy above midpoint, darker and glabrous below midpoint. **Fruits:** cypsela, oblanceoloid to oblong or \pm inversely conic, $1.4\text{--}2 \times 0.5\text{--}0.7$ mm, tannish to brownish and becoming purplish red at base of hairs, weakly 3–5-angled, ascending-pubescent; pappus of fine capillary bristles, ascending, mostly 3–3.4 mm long, several bristles only 2 mm long, white to tan. October.

Native. Shrub first confirmed as a population of two individuals in October 2009 by Tarja Sagar and Tony Valois at the peak of Conejo Peak. *Ericameria arborescens* vegetatively resembles *E. palmeri* and *E. pinifolia* but has somewhat longer leaves. In flower it is easy to distinguish between those species because in *E. arborescens* ray flowers are absent and the pappus is much shorter.

B. A. Prigge & A. C. Gibson