

Gazania linearis (Thunb.) Druce, GAZANIA. Perennial herb, evergreen, rhizomatous, rosetted, several–many-stemmed at base, clump-forming (mat-forming), \pm decumbent, when flowering 15–25 cm tall; shoots with ascending basal leaves and having short stems with cauline leaves and overlapping petiole bases, when young white cobwebby-woolly, having certain parts aging glabrescent or leaving sparse hairs and light flecks from persistent hair bases; latex milky; rhizomes ascending, \pm 4 mm diameter, fleshy with woody cylinder. **Stems:** cylindric, young stems to 4 mm diameter, greenish, internodes very short, when young somewhat white-cobwebby aging \pm glabrescent; solid. **Leaves:** helically alternate, unlobed to pinnately lobed with 2–5(–9) alternate lateral lobes above midblade, to 250 mm long, petiolate but petiole indistinct from long-tapered blade, without stipules; petiole half-sheathing stem with a flat, flaring base, winged to ca. 12 mm = axis basal to the dark green inrolled blade margins (revolute), with scattered hairs; blade linear-oblongate (unlobed) to ovate in outline (pinnately lobed), 40–150+ mm long, terminal lobe $>$ lateral lobes, base narrowly long-tapered, minutely short-serrate and scabrous on margins but tightly inrolled under (revolute) with teeth somewhat concealed, acute at tip, with a conspicuous midrib raised on lower surface and slightly off-center on blade and lobes, upper surface dark green and sparsely cobwebby-woolly aging \pm glabrescent, lower surface densely white-woolly. **Inflorescence:** heads solitary, terminal, appearing scapose on long peduncle, head radiate, in range 45–65 mm across, of 13–21 showy neuter ray flowers and many bisexual disc flowers, bracteate, when young cobwebby hairy; peduncle = stem, 50–220 mm long, often becoming reddish, bracts along peduncle typically 1 near midpoint and 1 near base, resembling diminutive, narrow cauline leaves, linear and short-petiolate, 10–22 mm long; **involucre** bell-shaped, 10–14 mm wide aging hemispheric and 2 \times in fruit, fused above midpoint at least to 8 mm and thick, with some scattered cobwebby hairs, phyllaries $>$ 25 in ca. 4 series, outer phyllaries triangular and fleshy, 5–7 mm long increasing somewhat in fruit (the lowest ones often deciduous), green aging darker, inner phyllaries = ray flowers, triangular but not fleshy, 5–6.5 mm long increasing 2 \times in fruit and appressed to flower, green with purple and somewhat scarious on margins, somewhat glossy; receptacle convex, without bractlets (paleae), pitted with a crownlike rim surrounding each ovary. **Ray flower:** neuter, bilateral, 6–8(–10) mm across, inrolling at night along 2 keels; **calyx (pappus)** absent; **corolla** unlobed, strap-shaped; tube extending from abortive ovary, 5–7 mm long, white, glabrous, hemi-cylindric in \times -section with flat side appressed to inner phyllary; limb spreading widely, \pm elliptic, 18–28 mm long, upper surface vivid yellow, golden yellow, or orange, in range typically with a dark green or brown, irregularly spheroidal blotch 3–4 mm long (absent), with a pure white emblem in the center green blotch or not, commonly with black framing white or green, lower surface (outer surface at nighttime), less intense yellow, middle 1/3 \pm with a purple stripe except 2 raised keels (= principal veins) yellow-green and other veins green included within purple, sometimes with 2(3) minute teeth at tip. **Disc flower:** bisexual, radial, 1.5–2 mm across; **calyx (pappus)** of ca. 25 silky, erect scales in 2 series on short rim, to 7.5 \times 0.2–0.4(–0.6) mm, silvery and bases sometimes purplish aging brownish and spreading; **corolla** (4–)5-lobed; tube + throat cylindric, 5–7.5+ mm long, gradually flaring to 1.5 mm at orifice, whitish, 10-veined, glabrous; lobes ascending, acuminate, (0.6–) \pm 2 mm long (if 4-lobed then 1 acute lobe = 2 fused lobes), yellow-orange above midpoint with 3 white veins; **stamens** 5, fused to corolla tube near midpoint; filaments $<$ 1 mm long,

colorless; anthers fused into cylinder surrounding style, scarcely exerted, basifixed, dithecal, 3.8–4.3 mm long, light orange, with acute tails at base, with acuminate appendage at tip ± 0.7 mm long, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen light orange; **pistil** 1; ovary inferior, obovoid, ± 1.7 mm long, white or white and purple, conspicuously beaded but obscured by > 100 silky hairs, the hairs 7–9 mm long; style exerted after pollen discharged, ca. 7(–13) mm long, whitish but becoming orangish (stained by pollen), 2-branched, the branches ascending, 1 mm long. **Fruits:** cypselae, club-shaped, ca. 4 mm long, when immature purple with vertical rows of white, beadlike cells or all beadlike cells and flat cells white, drying duller, villous with many silky hairs arising between the rows of beadlike cells; pappus scales ca. 25, spreading, to 7.5 mm long, brownish or with darker bases. Mid-January–late July.

Naturalized. A garden perennial herb found growing along roadsides, mostly where it has become established from nearby plantings. Once established, the individuals of *Gazania linearis* persist from rhizomes for years, probably by obtaining supplemental water derived from road runoff, and they can recolonize locally by fruits. In range, the yellow-flowered cultivars with dark green leaves (mostly Chansonette series), described above, have been observed in at least seven isolated locations, and should be expected elsewhere, but there are other cultivars of gazanias in gardens and planted along roadsides that may be expected to become naturalized, and which would not perfectly fit the above description.

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