

Genista monspessulana (L.) L. A. S. Johnson, BRIDLE-VEIL BROOM. Shrub, evergreen, unarmed, branches ascending, in range 100–200 cm tall; shoots silky-hairy. **Stems:** conspicuously 6–8-ridged, with 3 ridges descending from each leaf, green, with scattered long hairs and with hairless ridges, initially green and flexible becoming stiff and woody with brownish periderm. **Leaves:** helically alternate, 3-foliolate, petiolate, with stipules; stipule 2, attached to petiole base, appressed, narrowly acute, 1–2 mm long, persistent; petiole 2–6 mm long, not pulvinuslike, sericeous; petiolules < 0.8 mm long, not pulvinuslike; blades of leaflets obovate, 5–18 × 3.5–7.5 mm, tapered at base, entire, obtuse with hairy point (emarginate) at tip, pinnately veined with midrib sunken on upper surface and conspicuously raised on lower surface, upper surface green with scattered appressed or spreading hairs, lower surface silvery-green with denser hairs. **Inflorescence:** raceme, terminal on short lateral shoots, 4–10-flowered, flowers helically alternate, bracteate, sericeous; axis often very short making flowers appear clustered, sometimes more elongate and occasionally continuing as a vegetative shoot that may form axillary flowers; bractlet subtending axillary flower leaflike, 1–3-foliolate, long-tapered linear, 1–2 mm long; pedicel 1–4 mm long increasing to 5 mm long in fruit, with 2 bracteoles subtending calyx on pedicel, linear, the bracteoles < 1 mm long, persistent. **Flower:** bisexual, bilateral, pealike (papilionaceous), ca. 10 mm across, lightly scented, **nectary chamber** around receptacle beneath ovary, but nectar not observed; **calyx** 3-lobed, 4–5(–7) mm long, sericeous; tube bell-shaped, tube = lobes; 2 upper lobes acute, lower lobe 2–3-toothed; **petals** 5, keeled, clawed; banner spreading but aging folded, roundish, 10–12 mm wide (including claw 2 mm long), bright yellow with radiating darker veins, glabrous; wings 2, limb somewhat rectangular, 9–11.5 mm long (including claw), bright yellow; keel of 2 petals fused on lower edge 3–4 mm approaching tip, > wings, ≤ banner, light yellow, sericeous except near base, with a tuft of hairs on lobe above claw; **stamens** 10, monadelphous (fused into column), to 8 mm long; filament column to ca. midpoint, whitish, filament free portions unequal, 2.5–4.5 mm long; anthers dorsifixed, dithecal, 0.7–0.8 mm long, orange, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen orange; **pistil** 1, ± 11 mm long, exerted beyond anthers; ovary superior, narrowly oblong compressed side-to-side, ca. 3 mm long, sericeous, 1-chambered with several ovules attached to upper side; style whitish; stigma terminal. **Fruit:** pod (legume), dehiscent by 2 twisting valves, 3–6-seeded, narrowly oblong, 15–26 × 4–5 mm, not inflated but slightly bulging at seeds, dark brown, densely sericeous with long and short hairs. **Seed:** ± heart-shaped lenticular with swelling (strophiole), 2.3–2.5 mm long, ± dull grayish black or dark brown, smooth; strophiole U-shaped, 0.8 mm across, whitish. Early March–mid-May.

Naturalized. Ornamental shrub with bright yellow flower that has escaped in Franklin Canyon (SMM) in disturbed southern oak woodland, but also collected once along a creek bed in Yuma Canyon downstream from a former residence. *Genista monspessulana* has been treated as *Teline monspessulana* in *Flora Europaea*, based on the seed having a swelling (strophiole) at the hilum.

B. A. Prigge & A. C. Gibson