

Gutierrezia californica (DC.) Torrey & A. Gray, CALIFORNIA MATCHWEED. Subshrub (shrub), highly branched from base, with mostly ascending branches, 25–130 cm tall; shoots with leaves widely spaced and mostly spreading to reflexed, minutely short-hairy and superficially appearing glabrous, some parts somewhat resinous when fresh, aromatic. **Stems:** 5-angled to \pm corrugated, young stem to 2 mm diameter, with 3 ridges descending from each leaf, green, minutely stiff-puberulent (weakly scabrous), gland-dotted on green surfaces, resinous (especially after collected or injured). **Leaves:** helically alternate, simple, sessile, without stipules; blade linear to threadlike, $10\text{--}71 \times < 2.2$ mm, entire (remotely toothed), 1(3)-veined. **Inflorescence:** heads, in terminal, open, cymelike arrays, cluster to 4-headed initially but later appearing many-headed when axillary branchlets form, with the oldest unopened head often overtopping heads with open flowers, head radiate, 8–10 mm across, in range with 4–8 ray flowers and (4–)6–8(–10) disc flowers, bracteate, glabrous, resinous; bract subtending each branch of array leaflike, 3–18 mm long; peduncle > 1.5 mm long, with several bracts approaching head (= subtending future peduncles); **involucre** narrowly inversely conic to narrowly bell-shaped, $4.3\text{--}5.3 \times 2.1\text{--}3$ mm, conspicuously resinous in bud, phyllaries (9–)13–17(–21) in 3–4 graded series, very stiff, outer phyllaries ovate, $1.5\text{--}2.5 \times 1$ mm, whitish yellow but obtuse and green at tip, inner phyllaries cupped-oblong, $3\text{--}4.5 \times 1.5\text{--}2$ mm, thickened at base, 1-veined and slightly green along vein, membranous on margins especially above midpoint and becoming finely cut, obtuse at tip with short hairs and resinous; receptacle flat, without bractlets (paleae), pitted, with irregular projections surrounding ovary base and having swollen-based hairs on projections. **Ray flower:** pistillate, bilateral, 1.5–2 mm across; **calyx (pappus)** of 7–12 scales in 1–2 series, scales oblanceolate to elliptic or oblong, 0.6–1 mm long, translucent and scarious, cut above midpoint; **corolla** minutely 3-toothed to unlobed, 4.5–7 mm long, rarely 2-lipped with a short tooth on 1 side or opposite the limb; tube 1.4–2 mm long, greenish; limb spreading to recurved, narrowly ovate to lanceolate or broadly elliptic, $3\text{--}5.3 \times 1.2\text{--}1.8$ mm, bright yellow, acute or truncate; **stamens** absent; **pistil** 1; ovary inferior, inversely conic compressed or 3-sided, ± 1 mm long, sericeous, 1-chambered with 1 ovule; style exerted, 3.7–5 mm long, 2-branched, the branches 1.2–1.7 mm long, yellow or aging brownish orange, glabrous or sometimes short-hairy at tip. **Disc flower:** bisexual, radial, ca. 2 mm across; **calyx (pappus)** of 7–12 scales in 1–2 series, scales oblong to lanceolate or somewhat sheetlike if not split lengthwise, 1–1.4 mm long, translucent and scarious, irregularly cut on margins; **corolla** 5-lobed, 4–4.5 mm long; tube cylindrical, ± 1 mm long, yellowish; throat 2.5–3 mm long, throat and lobes golden yellow; lobes spreading becoming strongly recurved, equal, acute, ± 0.5 mm long; **stamens** 5, fused to corolla at base of throat; filaments 0.9–1.2 mm long, yellow; anthers fused into cylinder surrounding style, half-exserted, basifixed, dithecal, 2 mm long, yellow, rounded at base, acute at tip, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen yellow; **pistil** 1; ovary inferior, narrowly inversely conic, ± 1 mm long, sericeous, 1-chambered with 1 ovule; style 5.5–6 mm long, 2-branched, the branches 1.5–1.7 mm long, papillate-hairy. **Fruits:** cypsela, monomorphic, narrowly inversely conic to club-shaped, 2–2.8 mm long, in range light tan, with dense, appressed hairs. Mid-June–late January.

Native. Subshrub occurring mostly in the easternmost SH, especially on the Chatsworth Reservoir and nearby park wildlands in Chatsworth, growing in sunny locations on alluvial

plains around sandstone boulders. *Gutierrezia californica* has been treated by some authors in a more limited sense as being those populations in the San Francisco Bay region growing on serpentine soils, there referred to as the San Joaquin snakeweed; if so, our population, as part of the widespread taxon would be treated instead as *G. divergens* Greene. Our population tends to have heads with narrow involucre and relatively few flowers, the plants are often taller than described elsewhere, the phyllary tips are obtuse and hairy-resinous, and the shoots are minutely hairy (hispidulous). Locally the plants bloom mostly during late summer and fall, but open flowers have been observed in unusual years during June and also winter. Plants of *G. californica* are often described as resinous, but typically they are not sticky until after they have been picked and especially when placed into a sealed plastic bag or dried for an herbarium specimen.

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