

*Hesperocyparis forbesii* (Jepson) Bartel, TECATE CYPRESS. Tree, evergreen, scale-leaved, multi-trunked, densely branched on young growth with new shoot units 1–1.3 mm diameter, when young with a conic canopy, < 10 mm tall; monoecious (protogynous); shoots flexible, with leaves in 4 vertical rows (4-ranked, “cylindric”), having appressed leaves arranged shinglelike, on standard shoots with internodes < leaves, which each leaf closely appressed and slightly overlapping the next leaf in a vertical row completely concealing stem, on rapidly growing shoots (whip shoots) with internodes > leaves and leaves commonly not totally concealing stem, glabrous, with resin canals but not resinous on surfaces and old shoots lacking white exudate, strongly aromatic; bark on trunk along most of length smooth and cinnamon brown to reddish brown, not fibrous. **Stems:** on green shoots, entirely hidden by decurrent leaf bases, the leaf bases turning dark red and peeling off; on young twigs forming ± smooth periderm, young periderm tight, ± polished, mahogany-brown. **Leaves:** opposite decussate, strongly 4-ranked, of different forms on 2 types of shoots, simple, sessile and firmly attached to stem, without stipules; blade of typical scale leaves overlapping, awl-shaped with ± 0.8 mm of diamond-shaped tip exposed, tip never diverging or spreading, minutely toothed on exposed margins, ± rounded on back, obscurely veined, with inconspicuous gland on exposed surface but lacking any liquid or dry resin exudate, bright green aging duller with grayish wax accumulated along edges with neighboring leaf; blade of whip shoot ascending to spreading, triangular, 1.5–3 mm long, somewhat fleshy, with decurrent base clearly defined by raised margins, minutely toothed to short-ciliate on margins, acuminate at tip. **Pollen cones:** spikelike, terminal on scattered, newly formed winter shoots with scale leaves, of opposite decussate, 4-ranked microsporophylls, ovoid but not obviously 4-angled, in range 4–6 × 2–3 mm; scales in 6–7 pairs, obliquely umbrellalike and cordate (± peltate), short-stalked from a thick, central region, the stalk to 0.4 mm long bearing 3–5 pollen sacs where stalk expands into blade of microsporophyll; blade of scale widely ovate, 1–1.2 × 1.2–1.3 mm, green aging yellowish green to orange-green, truncate to subcordate at base, broadly obtuse to rounded and often short-toothed at tip and having a whitish and minutely jagged upper margin; pollen sacs ovoid wedge-shaped with outer face convex, 0.3–0.4 mm long; pollen light yellow. **Seed cones:** solitary, terminal on short lateral shoots; cone-bearing shoot 3–5 mm long increasing to 12 mm long at cone maturity; at pollination cone ca. 2.5 mm across, of 8–11 scales, the scales (scale-bract complex) ± opposite decussate, green and not glaucous, the lowest 1–2 pairs ascending, next fertile pair spreading ± deltate and 1.7 mm long, the third fertile pair ascending and broadly ovate and 1.6 mm long, the uppermost pair suberect, fleshy, and tonguelike, 1.3 × 1.3 mm, scales minutely toothed on margins, when spread exposing many chimneylike projections (exposed micropyles of ovules) along edge of each fertile cone scale; mature seed cone opening only during fire, to 140-seeded, with many seeds per scale, ± woody, spheroid to spheroidal-oblong, in range 22–30 × 21–25 mm, dull brown to gray, mostly with 8–10 cone scales, each scale somewhat umbrellalike (semi-peltate), 4–6-sided, with a low projection ± in center (= scale of cone at pollination; umbo). **Seed:** irregularly shaped but mostly obovoid compressed top-to-bottom, 3.3–5 × 1.8–3.5 mm, orangish brown, narrowly winged on margins, convex or ± angled on faces, with a narrowly oblanceolate to elliptic, whitish attachment scar. Mid-January (first pistillate)–mid-February (last staminate).

Naturalized. Occasionally observed along roadsides and near plantings from seeds of cultivated specimens, most notably along upper Stunt Road, e.g., at the entrance of UC Stunt Ranch, and in Griffith Park. *Hesperocyparis forbesii* is more commonly known as *Cupressus guadalupensis* var. *forbesii*. Tecate cypress is intolerant of fire and must be reestablished from seeds. Its shoots are greener than are most individuals of *H. arizonica*, because its surface wax is less abundant, and therefore no resin forms and polymerizes on the surface.

B. A. Prigge & A. C. Gibson