

Horkelia cuneata Lindl. var. ***cuneata***, WEDGELEAF HORKELIA. Perennial herb, rhizomatous, fibrous-rooted, rosetted, several–many-stemmed at base, with inflorescence spreading or ascending to erect, in range 15–70 cm tall; shoots with basal leaves and cauline leaves, forming ascending to spreading basal leaves during late winter from terminal and axillary buds along a shallowly buried, woody rhizome, densely glandular-viscid, the glandular hairs stalked with small heads, resinous-smelling; rhizomes flexible, typically 5-lobed, to 15 mm diameter, light to dark brown, villous, with persistent leaf bases from previous year, having a distinct, woody bundle opposite each lobe and in \times -section a wide, star-shaped or pentagonal pith, with occasional adventitious roots. **Stems:** \pm cylindrical, 2–4 mm diameter at base, with a slight ridge descending from each leaf, green, having glandular hairs and occasional stout, peglike hairs. **Leaves:** helically alternate, odd-1-pinnately compound, 11–25-foliolate, lateral leaflets often opposite or subopposite, terminal leaflet and 2 or more subtending lateral leaflets often fused, petiolate, with stipules; stipules 2, wings with lobes on edges of petiole base, green, lobes 1–4, 2–12.5(–19) mm long, increasing in length approaching blade, hairy, of cauline leaves lanceolate to ovate, 1–15 \times 6–8 mm, asymmetric, sometimes lobed and toothed; petiole channeled, < 65 mm long; blade of basal leaves oblanceolate in outline, (40–)100–300 \times 20–45 mm, blade of cauline leaves < basal leaves, 40–120 mm long, basal leaflets with short petiolules or sessile and pairs often widely spaced, the leaflets approaching the tip sessile; rachis flat to channeled, villous and capitate-glandular; petiolules < 1 mm long; blades of leaflets ovate to oblong or roundish, 15–28 \times 7–22 mm long, terminal leaflet \pm obovate when deeply lobed or when fused to lateral leaflets, lobes asymmetric at base, typically deeply toothed with each tooth often terminating in a minute, pale green point, pinnately veined with principal veins sunken on upper surface and raised on lower surface, sparsely villous and glutinous with short-stalked glandular hairs, upper surface sparsely pilose-villous and sometimes glutinous with short-stalked glandular hairs, lower surface glutinous. **Inflorescence:** cyme, terminal, several–many-flowered, open with branches spreading, bracteate, glandular-hairy; bract subtending branchlet leaflike, ovate, deeply lobed, toothed in the larger ones; pedicel short; bracteoles (bractlets) 5, fused to hypanthium rim, ovate, 1–2 mm shorter than calyx lobes, at anthesis spreading and appearing like outer whorl of sepals, persistent, in fruit ascending to erect;. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, 12–19 mm across, dish-shaped; hypanthium cuplike, 4–5 mm diameter, \pm 1.5 mm deep, with hairs along inner rim, **nectary** at anthesis filling hypanthium with nectar; central mound of receptacle (= torus), with fine, straight hairs 1 mm long between pistils; **sepals** 5, ovate to triangular, 4–8 \times 2.5–3.6 mm, acuminate at tip, green with glandular hairs on lower surface, glabrous from base upward and pubescent 1/3 to tip, persistent, in fruit ascending to erect; **petals** 5, oblanceolate to narrowly obovate or elliptic, 4–8 \times 2.7–3.3 mm, white with pale green veins, broadly tapered to acuminate at base, rounded and slightly indented at tip; **stamens** 10, free, erect, arising from hypanthium rim; filaments narrow-triangular, alternately long and short, 2.6–3 \times 1.1–1.3 mm (long stamens) and 2–2.2 \times 1.1–1.2 mm (short stamens), flat, white; anthers basifixed, dithecal, \pm trapezoidal, 1.3–1.5 \times 1–1.3 mm, the broadest at base, white with pink around sutures, minutely bumpy on outer side, longitudinally and inwardly dehiscent; pollen pale yellow or creamy beige; **pistils** \pm 40, helically alternate on torus; ovaries superior, ovoid, \pm 0.5 mm long, slightly transparent, 1-chambered with 1 ovule; style 2–2.5 mm long, white or sometimes rose-colored at base, stigmatic at tip.

Fruits: achenes, cashew-shaped to D-shaped, 1.4–1.7 × 0.9–1.1 mm, brownish with fine grayish netlike surface, style absent (abscised when immature). Late April–early July.

Native. Perennial herb occurring in coastal sage scrub and chaparral, mostly along the coast, e.g., above Malibu, usually growing in rocky ground. *Horkelia cuneata* can be locally common after a fire, and then persists in spaces between reestablished shrubs and subshrubs in open brush. At first glance, this plant resembles species of *Potentilla* with pinnately compound leaves, but those of *Horkelia cuneata* are strongly medicinal in aroma, and its flower has white, rather than yellow, petals. Some authors would treat our populations as subsp. *cuneata*, rather than as a variety.

B. A. Prigge & A. C. Gibson