

Kickxia elatine (L.) Dumort. Annual, taprooted, several–many-stemmed at base, often with 2-dimensional branching along main axes, initially erect later \pm horizontal and decumbent, < 20 cm tall; shoots pilose with hairs 2–3 mm long and glandular-pubescent, the glandular hairs < 0.5 mm long. **Stems:** \pm cylindric, to 3 mm diameter, yellow-green. **Leaves:** helically alternate but opposite at basal nodes, simple, short-petiolate, without stipules; petiole 0.5–5 mm long; blade ovate or triangular-ovate to \pm arrow-shaped, 10–40 \times 8–30 mm, decreasing upward, cordate to truncate at base and often lobed, sparsely toothed on lower margins and entire above midblade on margins, obtuse to round at tip, pinnately veined with principal veins slightly sunken on upper surface and raised on lower surface, darker green than stem. **Inflorescence:** leafy raceme, flower nodding below shoot on pedicel; bractlet leaflike; pedicel spreading, slender, typically 8–11 mm long, > leaf, \pm hooked below flower, sometimes becoming straighter in fruit. **Flower:** bisexual, bilateral, 5–6 mm across, spurred on lower side; **calyx** 5-lobed, barely fused at base; lobes acuminate-lanceolate and \pm equal or lower 2 ovate and slightly shorter, 3.5–5 mm long, green with membranous margins near base; **corolla** 2-lipped and 5-lobed, 6–7(–10) mm long + spur; tube very short, light yellow, short-villous; spur arising \perp from lower tube at base, exerted between lower calyx lobes and curving forward, reflexed or sometimes straight at maturity, tapered, ca. 7 mm long, yellowish with light purple streaks at base approaching upper side; throat closed by a palate on lower side, palate swollen upward, bearded, 2-humped; upper lip 2-lobed, ascending, the lobes rounded, dark purple, upper (inner) surface glabrous; lower lip 3-lobed, light yellow, lobes rounded, glabrous on both surfaces; **stamens** 4, lacking staminode, fused to base of corolla tube, the lower 2 longer than upper 2, positioned next to upper throat; filaments 3–4 mm long, whitish, pilose with long white hairs below midpoint; anthers fused along their edges forming a ring framed by filaments, dorsifixed, dithecal, heart-shaped, 1 mm long, dark burgundy, plump, with a tuft of white hairs at base of each anther sac, longitudinally and downwardly dehiscent; pollen white; **nectary disc** beneath ovary, ringlike but same width as ovary, dark green; **pistil** 1, 3 mm long; ovary superior, oblong and 2-lobed, 1 mm long, above midpoint with glandular hairs, 2-chambered, each chamber with many ovules attached to center; style \pm 2 mm long, pale green, expanding and swollen at subterminal bend, tapered to tip, with scattered glandular hairs along most of its length; stigma lobes small, white-papillate. **Fruit:** capsule, each chamber dehiscent by a large pore at top with a circular, detachable lid, to 23-seeded, 2-lobed subspheroid, 3 \times 4–4.5 mm, tan, thin-walled. **Seed:** ovoid, 1–1.3 \times 0.7 mm long, brown, with elaborate honeycomb of thin ridges. Mid-May–late July.

Naturalized. Annual seldom seen and growing as a weed in disturbed sites, e.g., near Seminole Hot Springs. Axillary flowers of *Kickxia elatine* are positioned slightly below and to the side of the shoot; they are relatively small but showy with yellow and purple, and have a clearly visible spur. Fruits open by a circular lid atop each chamber. If recognized, our populations would be *K. elatine* var. *crinita* (Mabille) W. Greuter. B. A. Prigge & A. C. Gibson