

*Lasthenia coronaria* (Nutt.) Ornduff, SCENTED GOLDFIELDS, CROWNED GOLDFIELDS, ROYAL GOLDFIELDS. Annual, taprooted, 1–several-stemmed at base, branched along main axis, erect to ascending with terminal, yellow heads, 10–30(–40) cm tall; shoots with only cauline leaves, sparsely villous-tomentose and conspicuously glandular-viscid, mildly sweet-scented. **Stems:** ± cylindric with faint, near-vertical furrows, slender, green but turning purple at plant base. **Leaves:** opposite decussate, sometimes subopposite on lateral shoots, 1-pinnately dissected (unlobed), sessile and when opposite with pair fused across node to form a perfoliate-sheathing base, without stipules; blade ascending, 10–60 mm long, in range the lateral lobes 1–2(–3) per side and typically opposite or subopposite, linear and ± cylindric, 1–20 mm long, blade base channeled to flat, 1.5–5 mm wide, lobes entire, rounded to truncate at tip with a small glandular point at tip, midrib only visible and slightly raised on lower surface, sparsely glandular-pubescent. **Inflorescence:** heads, in terminal, an open, cymelike arrays with 1 or 2 heads arising at the base of a peduncle, head radiate, 9–25+ mm across, with 6–13 ray flowers and 40–100 disc flowers, bracteate, villous-tomentose and glandular-viscid; bracts subtending peduncle 2, paired, leaflike, 3-lobed or unlobed, < 15 mm long; peduncle erect in flower (sometimes hooked in bud), stemlike, 20–50 mm long, slightly greenish and densely glandular-viscid, rarely with 1 linear bract below midpoint; **involucre** ± hemispheric, 3.5–7 mm wide, glandular-viscid, phyllaries free, in 1 series opposite each ray flower, narrowly ovate to elliptic, 3–5(–7) × 1–2 mm, green throughout, acute and ascending to spreading or recurved (ascending) at tip, keeled below midpoint; receptacle conic, without bractlets (paleae), with nipplelike protrusions on which ovaries attach somewhat laterally to 1 side. **Ray flower:** pistillate, bilateral, 2–3 mm across; **calyx (pappus)** absent; **corolla** 2–3-toothed or without teeth; tube cylindric, 0.8–1.2 × 0.25 mm, pale greenish yellow, with scattered to moderately dense glandular hairs; limb elliptic to oblong, 3–10 × 1.5–3 mm, bright yellow, rounded at tip or teeth small and rounded (if 3, the central tooth often short), with 5 faint veins; corollas not turning dark red in alkali solution; **pistil** 1; ovary inferior, cylindric to narrowly oblanceoloid, straight to slightly curved, 2–2.3 mm long, whitish, glandular and with slightly club-shaped, translucent hairs; style 1–1.5 mm long, 2-branched, yellow and becoming orange-yellow, the stigmatic branches spreading and barely exerted. **Disc flower:** bisexual, radial, 1–1.5 mm across, in bud with conspicuous, long, yellow papillate-hairs at tip; **calyx (pappus)** absent or to 8 scales, scales < 0.4 mm long, whitish, finely cut on margins, with or without fine tip; **corolla** 5-lobed, trumpet-shaped (salverform), 2–2.5 mm long; tube cylindric, 0.8–1.2 × 0.25 mm, pale yellow, with scattered glandular hairs; throat 0.5–1 mm long, expanded above tube to 0.8 mm wide, golden yellow, at anthesis filled with nectar; lobes spreading to ascending, deltate, ± 0.5 mm, golden yellow; **stamens** 5, fused to corolla tube at base, slightly exerted; filaments 0.5 mm long, yellowish; anthers fused into cylinder surrounding style, basifixed, dithecal, 1 mm long, bright yellow, with ± deltoid appendage 0.2 mm, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen yellow; **pistil** 1; ovary inferior, cylindric to narrowly oblanceoloid, straight to slightly curved, 2–2.3 mm long, whitish, glandular and with slightly club-shaped, translucent hairs; style exerted above anthers, ± 2 mm long, **nectary** at base, style 2-branched, the branches spreading, ± 0.5 mm long, grooved on inner face, slightly expanded at tip, the tip deltoid and densely papillate with papillae longer at base of the tip. **Fruits:** cypselae, ± monomorphic, club-shaped, ca. 2 mm long, dark brown + white callus at base,

straight or slightly curved, with fine vertical lines (ribs), having ascending brownish short hairs; pappus absent (of ray flowers) or with lanceolate to ovate scales (of disc flowers). Late February–early May.

Native. Showy spring annual infrequently observed in the western part of the range on open, grassy slopes in coastal sage scrub. *Lasthenia coronaria* is easily distinguished from its very common cousin *L. californica* by being the only species in California that is glandular-viscid and sweetly scented, and its paired leaves are deeply pinnately lobed (pinnatifid). Although both species of goldfields have similar heads, in *L. coronaria* the involucre, as well as being glandular, has a more prominent midveins and spreading tips on phyllaries, the limbs of ray flowers are less pointed, and the disc flowers are much wider due to the broader, nectar-filled throat of the corolla.

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