

Layia platyglossa (Fisch. & C. A. Meyer) A. Gray, TIDY TIPS. Annual, taprooted, 1–several-stemmed at base, erect or ascending if branched at base, in range 10–30 cm tall; shoots with only cauline leaves, mixed short-villous and villous-hirsute, glandular-hairy mostly in upper canopy and inflorescence, the longer hairs thickened at base, the glandular hairs with ruby red heads, not strongly scented. **Stems:** ± cylindric, to 3 mm diameter, with 3 faint ridges descending short distances from each leaf, surface becoming brownish and papery, sometimes spotted or blotched purple due to pigmentation produced at bases of bulbous hairs; with pulvinuslike swelling at base of an ascending branch. **Leaves:** helically alternate and the lowest cauline leaves opposite decussate with pair connected as 2 low ledges across node, pinnately lobed (the lowest leaves) to unlobed (upper cauline leaves), sessile, without stipules; blade linear to linear-lanceolate or linear-oblongate, in range 10–55 × 1–5 mm, sometimes slightly lobed at base (auriculate), pinnately lobed and low-dentate to entire on margins, when lobed the sinuses typically shallow but extending midway to midrib on the largest lower leaves, acute or obtuse to rounded at tip, pinnately veined with midrib raised on lower surface but lateral veins obscure, villous and puberulent. **Inflorescence:** heads solitary, terminal on erect peduncle, head radiate, 14–25(–35) mm across, in range typically with 8–10 ray flowers and 40–48 disc flowers, bracteate, soft-hairy and sparsely glandular with capitate hairs; peduncle to 75 mm long, green (purple), expanded and hollow below head; **involucre** hemispheric to bell-shaped, 5–8.5(–13.5) mm wide, phyllaries in 1 series with number = ray flowers, the lower portion of phyllary entirely enveloping ovary with incurved, overlapping margins, subequal, ± narrowly fiddle-shaped, ± 7.5–10 mm long, green but becoming purplish in fruit, the basal portion sparsely glandular-hairy on exposed surface, hirsute on exposed and inner surfaces with hairs thickened at base, densely woolly with matted hairs holding margins together, the upper portion ascending to spreading, oblanceolate, 5–6 × 1.5–1.9 mm, acute at tip; receptacle ± flat, finely puberulent between disc flowers, with bractlets (paleae) in 1 series forming a curtain separating ray flowers from disc flowers (= subtending the outermost disc flowers, visible from involucre in spaces between phyllaries), palea lanceolate, 4.5–6 mm long, acute at tip, purplish grading to pink or colorless at base, villous on exposed surface with or without glandular hairs having red heads, aging scarious; pedicel-like callus beneath each flower. **Ray flower:** pistillate, bilateral, typically 3.5–5 mm across; **calyx (pappus)** reduced to a small crown on top of ovary, weakly scalloped or minutely toothed, teeth ± 0.15 × 0.4 mm, pale green; **corolla** conspicuously 3(–4)-lobed; tube cylindric, 1.8–2 mm long, greenish white; limb sharply spreading, rectangular to wedge-shaped or ± trapeziform, 5–10.5(–12) × 4.3–6 mm, bright yellow but abruptly white on 1.5–3 mm at tip, 9–11-veined from base, lobes rounded, 1–2 mm long, with the central lobe typically narrower than lateral lobes; **stamens** absent; **pistil** 1; ovary inferior, narrowly obovoid compressed front-to-back, at anthesis 2.5–3.3 × 1 mm, curved, whitish but quickly aging purple and then black in fruit, glabrous, 1-chambered with 1 ovule; style exerted, 4.5–6.5 mm long, **nectary** swelling at base, with nectar and densely puberulent, style 2-branched above midpoint, pale greenish below fork, the branches linear, initially erect then spreading and coiled at tips, 1.5–1.8 mm long, yellow to orange-yellow, papillate-stigmatic base to tip, ± grooved on inner face. **Disc flower:** bisexual, radial, 1.5–2.7 mm across; **calyx (pappus)** in range of 15–17(–32) flattened bristles (absent), 1–2.3 mm long; **corolla** 5-lobed, ± cylindric, 3.2–4.5 mm long; tube 3–3.5 mm long,

orange-yellow, lobes ascending to spreading, triangular, 0.6–1 mm long, vivid yellow to orange-yellow, densely papillate with short conic hairs on inner surface; **stamens** 5, fused to corolla tube; filaments 1.5–2.2 mm long, translucent-pale yellow; anthers fused into cylinder surrounding style, exerted 1/2–3/4 anther length, basifixed, dithecal, oblong, 2–2.2(–2.5) mm long, purple with acute, pale yellow appendages at tip, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen yellow; **pistil** 1; ovary inferior, club-shaped, 2.5–3 mm long, pinkish aging purple, glabrous or densely villous with appressed-ascending hairs, 1-chambered with 1 ovule; style exerted, ca. 6.5 mm long, orange, **nectary** swelling at base, with nectar and puberulent, style 2-branched, pale greenish below fork, the branches above corolla lobes, spreading and strongly recurved, \pm 2.5 mm long, strong yellow. **Fruits:** cypselae, dimorphic, obovoid to club-shaped, $2.7\text{--}3.5 \times 0.6\text{--}1$ mm; cypsela of ray flowers lacking pappus and hidden within an outer phyllary, blackish brown and smooth, narrowly tapered to base with tiny callus at base, curved and somewhat compressed front-to-back, glabrous; cypselae of disc flowers straight and \pm 5-sided with rounded edges, with a yellowish callus at base, densely villous having ascending hairs, often with short remnant of perianth at tip; pappus (disc flowers) of spreading-ascending flattened bristles to 2.3 mm long. Mid-March–mid-June.

Native. An uncommon annual originally common in coastal stand, e.g., at Point Dume, as well as meadows, but now restricted mostly to a few grassy habitats or places where escaped from cultivation. When in flower, no species likely will be confused with *Layia platyglossa*, which has three-toothed, two-colored ray flowers that are bright yellow tipped white, hence the common name tidy tips, although individuals of the weedy chrysanthemum, *Glebionis coronaria*, have the same color pattern. *Layia platyglossa* has two types of fruits, of disc flowers having a well-defined pappus whorl of bristles and dense hairs on the fruit, and of ray flowers in which the fruit is glabrous and lacks pappus while it is dispersed enclosed by a phyllary that completely conceals it.

NB. It is unclear whether *Layia hieracioides* (DC) Hooker & Arnott occurs naturally in range. This species has cypselae that lack villous hairs and have fewer bristles, and the heads and ray flowers are smaller and therefore less showy.

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