

Lepidium draba L., HEART-PODDED HOARY CRESS. Perennial herb, deep-taprooted, fibrous-rooted, rosetted, several-stemmed at base, with ascending principal branches, 20–55 cm tall; shoots with basal leaves and cauline leaves but basal leaves absent at flowering, uniformly puberulent with arching, unbranched hairs. **Stems:** angled, to 5 mm diameter, with 2 descending ridges from each leaf, purplish at base; bark forming only at base. **Leaves:** helically alternate, simple, short-petiolate (basal leaves) to sessile and clasping (all cauline leaves), without stipules; petiole of basal leaves broadly U-shaped in \times -section, indistinct from blade; blade oblanceolate (basal leaves) to elliptic or broadly lanceolate (cauline leaves), 40–160 \times 6–37 mm, clasping with short lobes (auriculate) on lower shoot or long-acuminate lobes to 15 mm long (upper cauline leaves), long-tapered and wide-winged at base, remotely dentate to short-dentate or subentire on margins, acute to acuminate at tip, pinnately veined on lower leaves or 3-veined or 5-veined at base for upper cauline leaves with midrib sunken on upper surface and conspicuously raised on lower surface, dull, uniformly puberulent, midrib whitish to pale green. **Inflorescence:** panicle of racemes, terminal, densely flowered at tips of branches, \pm flat-topped with open flowers overtopping buds, many-flowered; bract subtending panicle and the lowest racemes leaflike, sessile, lanceolate and reduced upward, 10–65 mm long, clasping with acuminate lobes at base, often entire with wavy margin, acuminate at tip, 3-veined at base, typically less hairy than leaves and the uppermost bracts glabrescent; rachis cylindric above bracts, uniformly puberulent at base or becoming patchily puberulent approaching tip; bractlets absent; pedicel at anthesis ascending and 4–5 mm long spreading and increasing 2–3 \times in fruit, glabrous or puberulent below midpoint on upper side. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, 3 mm across, mildly scented; **sepals** 4, monomorphic, cupped-obovate, 1.9–2.4 \times 0.8–1.2 mm, green at center, white on margins and at tip, inconspicuously 1-veined, glabrous; **petals** 4, ascending, \pm 3 mm long, clawed nearly to midpoint, spatulate in outline, 0.6–0.8 mm wide, rounded to truncate or slightly notched at tip, white to pale yellow; **stamens** 6, essentially monomorphic but with outer 2 cupped by sepals; filaments 1.6–1.8 mm long, white; anthers dorsifixed, dithecal, 0.4–0.6 mm long, yellow, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen yellow; **nectaries** 6, alternating with bases of stamens and somewhat hidden by them, 0.1 mm long, greenish yellow; **pistil** 1; ovary superior, broadly ovate in outline, ca. 1 mm, green, compressed \perp to septum but slightly inflated, with scattered short-villous hairs below midpoint, minutely papillate, 2-chambered, each chamber with 1 ovule; style ca. 0.5 mm long, green, tapered to base on valves; stigma capitate, \pm 0.3 mm diameter, initially convex becoming nearly hemispheric, wider than end of style, densely papillate. **Fruit:** siliqua (silicle), indehiscent, typically 2-seeded, heart-shaped, 2–2.5 mm + persistent style 1–1.3 mm long, slightly inflated, not notched at tip, glabrate, minutely low-bumpy. **Seed:** compressed-ovoid, 0.7 \times 0.4 mm, orange-brown. Mid-March–mid-June.

Naturalized. Perennial herb collected only a few times at isolated locations on the edge of southern oak woodland in SMM. *Lepidium draba*, also widely treated as *Cardaria draba*, is categorized as a noxious weed, but it has not become weedy locally. The most interesting feature is the fruit, which resembles a heart enclosing 2 seeds, and it appears glabrous although at anthesis the ovary bears some inconspicuous, colorless hairs.

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