

Lonicera subspicata Hooker & Arnott var. *denudata* Rehder, CHAPARRAL HONEYSUCKLE, SOUTHERN HONEYSUCKLE. Shrub, evergreen, typically not twining but with terminal shoots long-arching or vinelike sprawling over neighboring shrubs (scandent), 100–250 cm tall; shoots with thin, ± leathery leaves and long internodes, sometimes 2-dimensional (plagiotropic) via petiolar twisting, puberulent and with capitate glandular hairs, the glandular hairs erect with orangish to translucent reddish purple heads on colorless stalk but head commonly lost in age leaving only stalk. **Stems:** cylindric, often purplish red, puberulent and capitate-glandular, older stems with red-brown periderm. **Leaves:** opposite decussate (rarely with a whorl of 3 leaves at an isolated node), simple, petiolate with pair or whorl connected by low ledges across node, without stipules; petiole hemicylindric, 1–8 mm long, conspicuously short-hairy; blade oblong to widely elliptic or ovate to broadly ovate, 10–50 × 5–32 mm, rounded and commonly slightly oblique at base, entire and ± short-ciliate with ascending hairs on margins, often rolling under when water-stressed or only margins inrolled (revolute), rounded to obtuse with minute point at tip, pinnately veined with midrib sometimes raised but other principal veins sunken on upper surface and all principal veins raised on lower surface, surfaces with conspicuous netted venation, upper surface glossy dark green and not glaucous, low-cobblestonelike (10×), glabrous or short-hairy glabrescent along veins and initially with scattered glandular hairs, lower surface light grayish green and glaucous, puberulent with arching and straight hairs. **Inflorescence:** interrupted “spike” of opposite decussate flowers (= paired 1-flowered cymes), terminal and axillary, (0–)15–65(–120) mm long, 3–12(–20) nodes, flowers at each node opening on different days, bracteate, short-puberulent and capitate-glandular; peduncle 6–35 mm long, nonglandular hairs sometimes backward-pointing; bracts subtending flower in 2 sets, outer pair on opposite sides of rachis and ± fused across node, triangular, 2–3.5 mm long, puberulent and glandular-hairy, lower surface conspicuously glaucous, sometimes aging blackish; bracts at base of flower 2 forming inner pair (upper 1 = bractlet), free, broadly ovate and cupped, 2–3.2 × 1.5–2.8 mm, green, glabrous. **Flower:** bisexual, bilateral, ± 7.5 mm across, not fragrant; **calyx** 5-lobed, 0.7–1 × 1.1–1.4 mm, green, persistent on top of fruit; lobes subequal in a crownlike arrangement, broadly triangular, 0.25–0.4 mm long, short-ciliate on margins with nonglandular and glandular hairs; **corolla** 2-lipped, 4-lobed on upper lip, 13–16 mm long, cream or light yellow often aging pale orange; tube slightly curved cylindric, 4.5–5.5 mm long, not pouched at base but slightly expanded on 1 side below midpoint, hairs on outer surface backward-pointing, on inner surface hairs ascending to erect; lips ± reflexed aging coiled; upper lip narrowly fan-shaped, 8.5–9.5 × 7–8.5 mm, lobes typically unequal, acute to obtuse (cleft), 0.4–3 × 1.5–2.5 mm, margins overlapping or not; lower lip unlobed (rarely 2-lobed with sinus to 1.7 mm deep), narrowly elliptic to oblanceolate, 9.5–10 × 2.3–3.5 mm; **stamens** 5; filaments fused along corolla tube and free at top, tapered to slender tip, 7–7.5 mm long, light yellow, hairy below midpoint, ± papillate above midpoint; anthers exerted, versatile, dithecal, 3.5–4 mm long, yellow, with scattered, colorless short hairs, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen yellow; **nectary disc** = a small swelling at tip of ovary next to style, weakly lobed, producing thin nectar overflowing calyx tube and coating ovary; **pistil** 1; ovary inferior, spheric, ca. 1 mm, green, without a neck, glabrous, 3-chambered, each chamber with several ovules; style ca. 15 mm long, ± cream-colored aging yellow like filaments, swollen at base, expanded beneath stigma, moderately short-strigose with

ascending hairs; stigma exerted typically several mm above level of anthers, \pm hemispheric weakly lobed, yellowish green, short-papillate. **Fruit:** berry, (1-)2-4(-5)-seeded, spheric, (5-)6-8 mm, yellow-orange to deep purple or cherry red, with persistent crownlike calyx 0.3-0.4 mm long; pulp juicy, yellow-orange. **Seed:** slightly domed and like a turtle shell, circular to ovate in outline, $3-3.8 \times 2.2-3.2$ mm, light cinnamon to golden brown and sometimes reddish dotted, \pm cordlike on margin, forming rim 0.7-1 mm thick, the rim well-defined on \pm concave side and weakly defined on convex side, faces minutely bumpy. Late April-early October.

Native. A lax (scandent) evergreen shrub of chaparral and woodlands commonly encountered throughout the range. *Lonicera subspicata* var. *denudata* has conspicuously glaucous lower surfaces of leaves and the smaller bracts subtending each flowering node, and both petioles and stems are short-hairy. This species has only two flowers per node; it appears to be adapted for butterfly pollination but is not fragrant, and many flowers in range never develop fruits. Its juicy red berries ripen beginning in August.
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