

Monardella hypoleuca A. Gray subsp. *hypoleuca*, THICK-LEAVED MONARDELLA, WHITE LEAF MONARDELLA. Woody perennial, with decumbent lower stems and ascending to erect flowering shoots, 25–110 cm tall; shoots tomentose and with short glandular hairs, strongly and pleasantly aromatic. **Stems:** bluntly 4-sided, internodes ca. 2 mm in diameter, typically purple before becoming woody, internodes mostly 20–35 mm long, in range tomentose. **Leaves:** opposite decussate, simple, petiolate and with pair connected as low ledges across node, without stipules; petiole 3–6(–8) mm long, U-shaped in \times -section, woolly-tomentose; blade lanceolate to narrowly ovate, 22–53 \times 6.5–18 mm, broadly tapered at base, entire and short-inrolled under on margins, acute at tip, pinnately veined with principal veins often purple and sunken on the upper surface and raised on lower surface, upper surface green, pilose, lower surface ashy gray, woolly-tomentose. **Inflorescence:** headlike, terminal cyme, 20–45 mm across, with many flowers on short pedicels and with many small undeveloped flower buds around the periphery of cluster, on expanded top of peduncle, bracteate; bracts subtending heads 10–18 forming an involucre, sometimes subtended by a pair of leaflike bracts, outer (lower) surfaces tomentose with raised veins and inner (upper) surfaces short-hairy, obviously paired in outer 2–3 series; **involucre** outer bracts ovate to obovate, 8–10 \times 6–7.5 mm, green at tip, pinnately veined but parallel approaching tip; intermediate bracts broadly elliptic, 9–12 \times 4–6 mm, inner bracts and bractlet subtending pedicel lanceolate to oblanceolate, 4–9 \times 1–3 mm; pedicel \pm 1 mm long, whitish, with glistening glandular hairs; undeveloped flower buds typically with rudimentary purple calyx. **Flower:** bisexual, \pm bilateral, ca. 12 mm across; **calyx** 5-toothed, glandular-pilose; tube \pm cylindrical, 7.5–9 \times 1.4–1.7 mm, 11–12(–15)-ribbed, greenish aging tannish, veins olive green and \pm membranous between veins, purplish red at bulbous bases of some hairs; teeth erect, triangular, \pm 1 mm long, green with purplish red margins, \pm spotted from purple hair bases, internally with appressed hairs; **corolla** indistinctly 2-lipped, 5-lobed, with \pm 6 resinous droplets on outer tip of each lobe; tube cylindrical, \pm 7 mm long, white to pale lavender; throat funnel-shaped, \pm 3.5 mm long, pale lavender aging deep lavender-purple, puberulent, internally glabrous; lips light lavender, outer surface sparsely puberulent; upper lip deeply 2-lipped to midpoint, erect, 5–6.5 \times 2 mm, lobes linear, rounded at tip; lower lip 3-lobed, 6–7.5 \times 1.2 mm, lobes spreading, linear-lanceolate, 3-veined; **stamens** 4, fused to upper throat of corolla, dimorphic; filaments exserted, straight, of 2 arising from lower lip 6.5–8 mm long (lower stamens) and of 2 arising from upper lip 5–6 mm long (upper stamens), lavender, puberulent near the base; anthers dorsifixed, dithecal with widely divergent sacs, 0.2 \times 0.6 mm, deep reddish purple, the connective triangular, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen white; **nectary disc** beneath ovary, barrel-shaped, 0.7 mm long, greenish, producing copious nectar; **pistil** 1; ovary superior, strongly 4-lobed, not centered on nectary disc, lobes ovoid, \pm 0.2 mm long, yellowish or whitish, 2-chambered, each lobe with 1 ovule; style attached to ovary base at center of ovary lobes (gynobasic), exserted, 12–14(–20) mm long, whitish to light lavender, short 2-branched; stigmas acute, \pm 0.2 mm long, deep reddish purple. **Fruits:** nutlets, typically only 1 of 4 fertile, narrowly top-shaped, 1.6–2.2 \times 0.6–0.8 mm, dark brown mottled above midpoint with lighter brown (infertile nutlets pale brown), truncate at tip, mostly 3-sided with 2 inner faces somewhat flat, outer face convex with 1–3 fine veins arising at base and the central vein often forked, glabrous. Mid-June–late September.

Native. Woody perennial occurring in southern oak woodland in rich soil of shady canyon bottoms of southern SMM, often growing with the honeysuckle *Lonicera subspicata*, *Bacchais plummerae*, and *Artemisia douglasiana*. *Monardella hypoleuca* blooms during the summer, and its lavender flowers attract butterflies and beetles, but in range typically only one nutlet of each set becomes fertile.

B. A. Prigge & A. C. Gibson