

Nicotiana clevelandii A. Gray, DESERT TOBACCO. Annual, taprooted, rosetted, 1-stemmed at base, erect, 15–60 cm tall; shoots glandular-villous, the hairs of unequal lengths with elongated, yellowish light brown heads, ill-smelling. **Stems:** cylindric, to 4 mm diameter. **Leaves:** helically alternate, simple, petiolate (lower leaves) and \pm sessile (upper cauline leaves), without stipules; petiole hemi-cylindric, to 15 mm long, \ll blade, often with narrow wings; blade ovate to lanceolate, in range 30–70 \times 16–35 mm, broadly tapered to tapered at base, entire, acute to acuminate at tip, pinnately veined with principal veins sunken on upper surface and raised on lower surface, initially glandular-villous becoming sparsely pubescent having hairs remaining on margins and lower surface midrib. **Inflorescence:** raceme or panicle of racemes, terminal, leafy, bracteate, glandular-villous; bract associated with each lateral branch and lower flower (bractlet), leaflike but smaller and lanceolate, \pm sessile, the narrower upper ones not always at nodes; pedicel at anthesis several mm long increasing to 10 mm long in fruit. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, 8–10 mm across; **calyx** 5(–6)-lobed, 8–10 mm long; tube bell-shaped, 3.5–4 mm long, ribbed, the ribs continuing into lobes, sometimes red or blackish; lobes narrowly triangular to conspicuously unequal and linear-lanceolate, the upper 1(2) lobes 4–6 mm long, the other lobes 3–4 mm long; **corolla** 5-lobed, trumpet-shaped (salverform), sparsely villous, in bud lobes strongly twisted; tube-throat cylindric, 13–20 mm long, greenish white, 15-veined; lobes broad and short, 1.5–2.5 \times 4.5–5 mm, white and purple-tinged, with midvein rib on lower surface; **stamens** 5, fused to corolla tube ca. 4 mm above base; filaments 9–10 mm long, greenish white, glabrous or with several minute glandular hairs; anthers included, dorsifixed, dithecal, 1.2–1.7 mm long, pale yellow, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen white; **nectary disc** cupping base of ovary and appressed to sides, crownlike, to 0.7 mm long, orange, several-lobed; **pistil** 1; ovary superior, narrowly ovoid, 2 mm long, whitish to pale green with darker sutures, glabrous, 2-chambered, each chamber with many ovules; style 12–13 mm long; stigma capitate, ca. 1 mm wide, green, grooved across top, minutely pubescent, extending slightly above anthers. **Fruit:** capsule, dehiscent by 4 ovate, terminal valves, many-seeded, ovoid, (4–)6–8(–9) mm long, tannish brown. **Seed:** kidney-shaped, \pm 0.7 mm long, hard, brown, \pm frosted, the faces with a network of sinusoidal and straight ridges. Late February–mid-April.

Native. Annual first observed during the wet, early spring of 2005 growing in the shelter of a rock outcrop in coastal sage scrub along the Santa Rosa Trail, Wildwood Region Park (SH), but since then found elsewhere. Even while tightly enclosed in a plastic bag, the strong smell of *Nicotiana clevelandii* can be detected, produced by the dense glandular hairs covering all green parts of the plant.

B. A. Prigge & A. C. Gibson