

Oxalis californica (Abrams) R. Knuth, CALIFORNIA WOOD-SORREL, HAIRY WOOD-SORREL. Perennial herb, stolon-bearing, with woody taproot, dense mound-forming, \pm trailing but typically not rooting at nodes of stolons, 10–40 cm tall; shoots with leaflets folding at night, soft-hairy, the hairs 0.7–1.2 mm long. **Stems:** cylindric, < 2 mm diameter, tough, pubescent with upward-pointing hairs, trailing stems often turning red, inner stems covered with brown bark. **Leaves:** helically alternate, palmately 3-foliolate, petiolate, with stipules; stipules 2, thin, ciliate, membranous wings along base of petiole below pulvinus; petiole 15–55(–65) mm long, expanded at base and slightly clasping, constricted below slightly bulbous pulvinus, hemi-cylindric above pulvinus and ridged on each side of groove, slightly expanded below petiolules; petiolule = pulvinus, 0.3–0.5 mm long; blades of leaflets broadly heart-shaped, 4–9 \times 5.2–11.9 mm, length < width, thin, green, tapered at base, entire with long hairs on margins, notched at tip, faintly 3-veined at base of each lobe, ascending-pilose. **Inflorescence:** reduced cyme, axillary, 1–2(–3)-flowered, bracteate, soft-hairy; peduncle 25–45 mm long, with pulvinus at base; bractlets subtending pedicel 1 or 2, narrowly tapered, 2–3 mm long, green, soft-hairy, persistent; pedicel slender, < 20 mm long, with pulvinus at base, soft-hairy. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, 13–18 mm across, dish-shaped; **sepals** 5, barely fused at base (= receptacle), ascending, subequal, lanceolate to narrowly elliptic or oblong, 3.3–6 \times 1.2–1.5 mm, green sometimes turning rose, acute with hairs at tip, lower (outer) surface soft-hairy, upper (inner) surface glabrous; **petals** 5, spreading, short-clawed, oblanceolate, 6.5–12 mm long, yellow; **stamens** 10 in 1 set fused into a column surrounding pistil; tube \pm 1.5 mm long; filaments dimorphic, alternately long and short, the short ones opposite corolla tube attachments, 3.5–4.3 mm long, the longer ones opposite openings in corolla tube, 4.3–5 mm long, greenish white to yellowish green; anthers dorsifixed, dithecal, roundish, ca. 0.5 mm, yellow, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen yellow; **nectaries** 5, bumps on base of staminal tube below each short filament, producing copious nectar (escaping through openings to form a nectar pool between sepals and corolla); **pistil** 1, = long stamens; ovary superior, columnar and 5-angled, < 5 mm long, green, puberulent, 5-chambered, each chamber with 5–6 ovules; styles 5, ascending, \pm 1.5 mm long, pale green, with ascending hairs; stigmas terminal, papillate-hairy. **Fruit:** capsule, loculicidal, dehiscent by 5 valves, 20–25-seeded, oblong or ellipsoid and deeply 5-lobed, (8.5–)10–12 \times 3–4 mm, with shallow longitudinal groove on each lobe (\approx 10-lobed), puberulent. **Seed:** discoid-ellipsoid and strongly compressed, 1–1.2 \times 0.7–0.9 mm long, glossy brown, acute at hilum, transversely ridged and whitish in grooves. Late November–early May.

Native. Perennial herb found in openings or grassy patches of coastal sage scrub and chaparral in SMM. *Oxalis californica* has also been treated as either *O. corniculata* subsp. *pilosa* or *O. albicans* subsp. *pilosa*.

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