

Phacelia tanacetifolia Benth., LACY PHACELIA. Annual, taprooted, not rosetted, 1-stemmed at base or with 2–3 spreading-ascending branches from lower nodes of main stem, ± erect, 10–80+ cm tall; shoots sparsely glabrescent to hirsute at base, typically hirsute in canopy and pubescent in inflorescences, the hirsute hairs long and stiff with thickened bases on the longest ones, the glandular hairs (mostly on inflorescence) short and slender-stalked. **Stems:** ± cylindric, < 6 mm diameter, with 2 low ridges descending from each leaf, ± straight, green but becoming dark red to dark purplish red on exposed sides, sometimes scabrous from persistent hair bases; hollow. **Leaves:** helically alternate (the basal 1–2 nodes ± opposite), odd-1-pinnately compound with 3–6 lateral leaflets per edge and a terminal leaflet, petiolate to sessile in upper canopy, without stipules (basal leaflets sometimes resembling stipules); petiole channeled above, to 40 mm long, green to dark reddish, glabrescent with sparse nonglandular hairs, the hairs slender, especially at bases of leaflets in the channel; blade 15–110+ mm long, rachis channeled with hairs as on petiole; lateral leaflets or lobes often subopposite, spreading, with short petiolules to sessile; petiolules < 2.5 mm long; blades of leaflets ± oblong, 5–25 × 3–10 mm, 3–5-lobed per side, lobes paired or not, ascending, deeply serrate on margins, pinnately veined with leaflet axis and principal vein to each lobe sunken on upper surface and raised on lower surface, dull, hirsute to sericeous; blade of terminal leaflet ovate to elliptic, irregularly dissected and deeply lobed, serrate on margins. **Inflorescence:** branched cyme, terminal on main and each lateral shoot, cymes typically with 2–3 branches at fork, each branch to 32-flowered, 1-sided, buds and open flowers dense on a coiled rachis at tip, flowers subsessile, lacking bracts, hirsute and glandular-hairy; bract subtending inflorescence = upper cauline leaf; peduncle cylindric, 25–45 mm long, sparsely hirsute with hairs having blisterlike bases and also densely short-pubescent with nonglandular and some glandular hairs. appearing densely short-pilose after losing colorless glandular heads; axis initially forked forming an angle of 60–90°, in fruit diverging at 45°; bractlets absent; pedicel at anthesis < 0.7 mm long increasing to < 1 mm in fruit. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, 7–8 mm across; **calyx** 5-lobed, green, long-hirsute on outer surfaces; tube shallowly cup-shaped, 0.5–0.6 × 1.3–1.5 mm; lobes ± dimorphic, 4–4.5 mm long and scarcely increasing in fruit, typically with the outward-facing lobe narrowly oblanceolate, 1 mm wide, other lobes linear to lanceolate-linear, 0.5–0.6 mm wide, acute at tip, with finer, shorter ascending hairs on ± glaucous inner surface, finely short-hairy to pubescent on outer surfaces of lobes exposed surfaces; **corolla** 5-lobed, funnel-shaped, 7–8 mm long, violet (approaching blue) with darker dendritic veins, abscising but persisting by becoming stuck to ovary; tube + throat 3.5–5 mm long, in early bud having 5 longitudinal dimples on throat opposite calyx lobes, internally with 2 scales from base of each stamen to midpoint, the scales vertically attached to throat entire length or shortly free at obtuse tip, semi-ovate to semi-obovate, 1.3–2 × 0.6 mm, each pair collarlike around filament, the free edges curving around filament with upper margin bent toward pistil and lower margins overlapping to form a neck around filament and fusing with filament at base; lobes ± round to somewhat shortened (oblate), 2–3.7 × 2–3.9 mm, lower surface finely short-pilose to pubescent where exposed in bud; **stamens** 5, fused at base of corolla tube, exerted; filaments in bud arched inward later ± straight, unequal, 8–10.3 mm long, white at base grading to light violet at tip, glabrous; anthers versatile, dithecal, oblong to obovate, 1.7–1.9 × 1.2 mm long, pale to light yellow, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen pale yellow; **nectary disc** surrounding base

of pistil, 1–1.2 mm diameter, greenish; **pistil** 1; ovary superior, ellipsoid to oblanceoid, 1.3×0.7 – 0.9 mm, lacking crests above midpoint, with long ascending hairs on upper 0.3–0.4 mm, \pm 2-chambered, each chamber with 2 ovules; style exerted, 8–11.5 mm long, 2-branched 2 mm above ovary, below fork hairy, the branches ascending to spreading, 6.2–9.7 mm long, light lavender to pale violet but paler at base, tapered to stigma; stigma terminal, minute. **Fruit:** capsule, loculicidal, 2–4-seeded, ovoid to broadly ellipsoid, 3.5 – 4.2×3 mm, short-beaked, with ascending hairs on upper 0.5 mm. **Seed:** 3-sided ovoid, 3.3 – $3.7 \times \pm 1.7$ mm, dark brown, 2 inner faces somewhat concave, deeply pitted and netlike. Early April–mid-May.

Native. Annual common in desertscrub of southern California but also collected several times in range. *Phacelia tanacetifolia* closely resembles *P. distans*, and the two species can be confused without relying on technical characteristics. *Phacelia tanacetifolia* has longer fruits and seeds, but the easier feature to use is anther color, which is pale yellow in this species but deep violet in *P. distans*.

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