

*Pseudognaphalium microcephalum* (Nutt.) Anderb., SAN DIEGO RABBIT-TOBACCO.

Perennial or biennial herb, taprooted, several–many-stemmed from woody base, axes unbranched typically below midpoint and with ascending lateral branches above, lateral branches sometimes slightly flexuous, erect, 40–100 cm tall; shoots densely white tomentose-woolly, not glandular (obscurely glandular), mildly aromatic or not aromatic.

**Stems:** cylindric, 6+ mm diameter at base, without ridges decurrent from blades or instead having short ridges not evident through dense wool, internodes mostly 10–15 mm long on main axis and mostly < 10 mm long on lateral branches, woolly and sometimes becoming matted longitudinally. **Leaves:** helically alternate, simple, sessile, without stipules; blade narrowly oblanceolate (lower plant) to lanceolate (canopy), in range 20–95 × 5–13(–18) mm, slightly clasping to long-tapered at base, entire and flat on margins, acute at tip, pinnately veined (sometimes 3-veined at base) with midrib raised on lower surface, woolly and lacking glandular hairs, upper surface hairs sometimes aging slightly darker.

**Inflorescence:** heads, in terminal, flat-topped arrays mostly with clusters of mostly 3–5 heads, array dense to open with lower branches ascending and commonly equaling or surpassing central axis, 30–200 × 15–200 mm, head disciform, with 33–38 pistillate peripheral flowers and 4–8 bisexual central flowers, bracteate, tomentose-woolly like shoot; bract subtending each branch and branchlet, narrowly oblong to narrowly lanceolate, lower bracts 10–27 × 2.5–3.5 mm decreasing upward with the uppermost bracts ca. 3 mm long and scarious at tip; peduncle < 1.5 mm long; **involucre** at anthesis urn-shaped, 5–6.7 × 3 mm, becoming vase-shaped to bell-shaped and 5–7 mm wide in fruit, phyllaries appressed, 27–31 in 6–7 graded series, silvery white and membranous but green and tomentose on base of midstripe, outer phyllaries short-elliptic to rhombic-elliptic, 4.2–4.3 × 1.4–1.7 mm, tapered at base, acute at tip, with midstripe 1.5–1.7 mm long, inner phyllaries long-oblanceolate to linear-lanceolate, < 5.6 × > 0.8 mm, long-tapered to tapered at base, obtuse at tip, with midstripe to 2.9 mm long; receptacle at anthesis flat to slightly convex becoming concave in fruit, without bractlets (paleae), with each ovary in shallow pit. **Peripheral flower:** pistillate, radial, 0.2 mm across; **calyx (pappus)** of 15–21 capillary bristles in 1 whorl, 3–3.4 mm long, white; **corolla** 3-lobed, tube cylindric, 2.7–3.3 mm long, the widest at base, mostly light greenish to yellowish green but grading to yellowish at orifice; lobes erect to suberect, 0.1 mm long, yellow, commonly with several spheric glands; **stamens** absent; **pistil** 1; ovary inferior, ellipsoid to sausage-shaped, < 0.5 mm long, yellowish tan, glabrous, 1-chambered with 1 ovule; style generally < corolla, 3 mm long, 2-branched, the stigmatic branches included, ca. 0.4 mm long, greenish yellow, tapered, glabrous. **Central flower:** bisexual, radial, 0.3 mm across; **calyx (pappus)** of 15–21 capillary bristles in 1 whorl, 3–3.4 mm long, white; **corolla** 5-lobed; tube cylindric, 2.6–3.1 mm long, the widest at base, mostly light greenish to yellowish green but grading to yellowish at orifice; lobes erect to suberect, acute, ca. 0.25–0.3 mm long, yellow, commonly with several spheric glands; **stamens** 5, fused to corolla tube ca. 1 mm from base, included; filaments ca. 1 mm long; anthers fused into cylinder surrounding style, basifixed, dithecal, ca. 1.5 mm long, golden yellow, appearing fringed with tails ± 0.3 mm long at base, with a membranous lanceolate appendage ± 0.3 mm long at tip, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen golden yellow; **pistil** 1; ovary inferior, ellipsoid to sausage-shaped, < 0.5 mm long, yellowish tan, glabrous, 1-chambered with 1 ovule; style generally < corolla, ca. 2.5 mm long, 2-branched, ca. 0.5 mm long, papillate-hairy at

yellowish, truncate and expanded at tip. **Fruits:** cypselae, monomorphic, oblanceoloid slightly compressed top-to-bottom, ca.  $0.8 \times 0.3$  mm, brownish, with a slight longitudinally ridge on the broader surfaces; pappus of 15–21 capillary bristles, 3–3.4 mm long, white. Late February–mid-November.

Native. Perennial or biennial herb widespread throughout the range in a variety of habitats. *Pseudognaphalium microcephalum*, formerly treated as a variety of *Gnaphalium canescens*, appears grayish and densely white-tomentose, and glandular hairs, if they are present, are difficult to observe beneath the woolly cover. This species can be confused with *P. beneolens*, which has some glandular hairs, a somewhat different leaf shape, and different numbers of pistillate and bisexual flowers.

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