

Sairocarpus nuttallianus (A. DC.) D. A. Sutton, VIOLET SNAPDRAGON, NUTTALL'S SNAPDRAGON. Annual, taprooted, with tendrils, several-stemmed at base, with slender, lateral branches sometimes tendril-like, twining and clinging to neighboring plants, erect to decumbent, 50–100 cm tall; shoots with only cauline leaves, sparsely to somewhat glandular-pilose and not viscid, the glandular hairs mostly 0.5–1.9 mm long with small, amber heads. **Stems:** cylindrical, to 5.5 mm diameter, glandular hairs of mixed lengths. **Leaves:** helically alternate but opposite at the lower nodes of main shoot and the lowest node of each lateral branch, simple, petiolate, without stipules; petiole 0.7–6 mm long; blade deltate-ovate, 6.5–24 × 4.5–19 mm, truncate to cordate at base, entire, acute to slightly acuminate at tip, ± palmately veined with principal veins slightly sunken on upper surface and raised on lower surface, glandular-pilose, upper surface sparsely hairy becoming glabrescent. **Inflorescence:** leafy raceme, terminal, many-flowered, sometimes later with a slender lateral shoot arising at node with flower, flowers not overlapping, bracteate, glandular-pilose but not viscid; rachis cylindrical; bractlet subtending pedicel leaflike, lanceolate to narrowly ovate, 3.5–5 mm long, short-petiolate, with glandular hairs; pedicel ascending, in range 3–7.5 mm long increasing to 12 mm long in fruit, not straight. **Flower:** bisexual, bilateral, 7–8.5 mm across; **calyx** 5-lobed, 5–5.8 mm long, sparsely glandular-pilose, with hairs of similar length; tube oblique, with sinus almost to base on upper side; lobes unequal, overlapping, oblong to lanceolate, 3.8–5.5 × 1.2–2.2 mm, the upper lobe the longest, acute at tip with weak point, with scattered glandular hairs on outer surface and internally above midpoint; **corolla** 2-lipped and 5-lobed, 7.5–14.5 mm long, with some glandular hairs on exposed throat; tube expanded at base around lower ovary, swollen portion pale yellow, creamy white, or pale green; tube + throat 4–4.8 mm long, above base purplish pink with dark purplish red veins, slightly saclike on lower side; lips > tube + throat; upper lip 2-lobed, 4.2–5.8 mm long, strong violet to deep purple, upwardly arched at mouth of throat, lobes erect, rounded, 1–1.7 mm long; lower lip 3-lobed, 4–9.5 mm long, projecting upward and forward, pouched and touguelike, pressed up against base of upper lip and closing orifice, strong violet to deep purple, internally with 2 longitudinal ridges and densely bearded with vivid yellow (gold) club-shaped hairs on floor (paler near orifice), yellowish and with dark purplish red veins on lower outer surface, with interrupted, windowlike white spots on pouch, the lobes at base of pouch angled slightly downward, rounded-oblong, 2.4–5.2 mm long, strong violet to deep purple; **stamens** 4, lacking staminode, fused to base of corolla tube, dimorphic with the longer 2 stamens on lower side, included; filament free portions 4.5–5.8 mm long (lower stamens) and 3.5–4 mm long and more slender (upper stamens), both fused to corolla for several mm, pale purplish pink, bent at base, with thick hairs at bend but otherwise glabrous; anthers positioned at mouth of tube below upper lip, basifixed, dithecal, ovoid, 0.4 × 0.3 mm, dark purple, spreading ⊥ to filament at dehiscence with 2 ends facing downward, longitudinally dehiscent with slits continuous across tip; pollen light yellow; **nectary** appressed to ca. lower 1/4 of ovary, green; **pistil** 1, ca. 6.5 mm long; ovary superior, ± conic, ca. 2.5 mm long, mostly light yellowish green but darker at base and moderate purplish pink at tip on upper and lower edge, glabrous at base 0.5 mm and stalked glandular-hairy above, 2-chambered, each chamber with many ovules attached to center, but with upper chamber smaller; style tapered from base to tip, ± 3.5 mm long, moderate purplish pink except paler approaching stigma, stalked glandular hairs to or slightly above midpoint; stigma terminal,

unequally and slightly 2-lobed, 0.15 mm across, pale yellowish, papillate. **Fruit:** capsule, dehiscent by 3 pores (2 in lower chamber, 1 in upper chamber) near tip and separating from vertical septum, many-seeded, oblique-lanceoloid, 7–8.5 × 2.3–2.7 mm, straw-colored, lower chamber larger, with scattered glandular hairs on exposed valves; persistent beak (style) ca. 2 mm long. **Seed:** ± barrel-shaped, ca. 0.4 × 0.3 mm, dull dark brown, with broken, thin, tall, longitudinally oriented ridges, minutely papillate. Late April–early July.

Native. Annual occasionally found in range on fairly recent burns in coastal sage scrub and chaparral. *Sairocarpus nuttallianus* is not viscid; local plants have scattered glandular hairs, as described for subspecies *subsessile*, but hairs are of mixed sizes and produce small heads, as described for subspecies *nuttallianus*. During flowering, pedicels typically are five to seven millimeter long increasing in fruit, which is characteristic of subspecies *nuttallianus*. On the lower lip the white patch is interrupted and windowlike, which is the characteristic of subspecies *subsessile*. The tiny seeds of local plants have some entire ridges, but mostly broken ridges, a feature characteristic of subspecies *subsessile*. Obviously greater study is required to determine the subspecies are clearly defined, or whether our populations are fairly recent hybrids of the two subspecies.

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