

Soliva sessilis Ruiz Lopez & Pavón, FIELD BURRWEED, LAWN BURRWEED. Annual, taprooted, several-stemmed at base, procumbent to decumbent, forked below most heads, in range 2–10 cm tall; shoots with basal leaves and cauline leaves, principal branches spreading with relatively long internodes, soft-hairy. **Stems:** cylindric, < 1 mm diameter, tough and flexible, light green aging straw-colored, internodes to 70 mm long, villous. **Leaves:** alternate but appearing opposite at each fork producing a sessile head, deeply 2–3-pinnately dissected commonly with 3 lateral primary lobes per side, petiolate, without stipules; petiole with winged, sheathing base, to 25 mm long, villous and often with dense hairs near nodes; blade obovate to oblong in outline, 10–20 × 10–15 mm, lateral primary lobes subopposite to alternate, primary lobes ± palmately divided, ultimate segments narrowly elliptic to oblanceolate, 2–5 × 0.3–0.6 mm, acute with minute point at tip, inconspicuously veined, dull, villous often aging glabrescent. **Inflorescence:** heads solitary, sessile in leaf axil (the subtending leaves appearing opposite), head disciform, mostly 3.5–4 mm across, with 8–10+ pistillate peripheral flowers in 1–3 series and 4–5 functionally staminate central flowers; **involucre** cup-shaped, phyllaries 5 in 1 series, essentially free, ovate, 3–4.5 × 2–2.5 mm, green but white at base and pale at pointed tip, lacking membranous margins, faintly 3-veined from base, villous on outer surface; receptacle ± hemispheric, without bractlets (paleae), but bumpy where flowers attached; staminate flowers persistent in fruit. **Peripheral flower:** pistillate; **perianth** absent; **stamens** absent; **pistil** 1; ovary inferior, flattened-obovoid with a pair of short shoulders on top flanking a spinelike tip, body ca. 1 mm long, the spine = ovary wall (stylar sheath) to 1.5 mm long, body initially glossy pale green and glabrous becoming short-hairy on both faces, lacking glandular hairs, 1-chambered with 1 ovule, initially the ovule visible when backlighted; style < 0.3 mm longer than stylar sheath, above spine 2-branched, the branches reddish. **Central flower:** functionally staminate, radial, 0.25–0.3 mm across, to 2.2 mm long; **calyx (pappus)** absent; **corolla** 4-lobed, club-shaped, 1.1–1.4 mm long; tube light green, with several, minute papillate hairs; lobes deltate, ± 0.15 mm, pale green to whitish; **stamens** 4, fused to corolla tube at midpoint, included; filaments 0.2 mm long, white; anthers fused into cylinder surrounding style, basifixed, dithecal, 0.4–0.45 mm long, pale yellow, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen pale yellow; **pistil** 1, sterile; ovary inferior, cylindric, 0.6–0.8 mm long, white; style with 2-lobed with stigmas exerted slightly above anthers, white, appearing tack-shaped. **Fruits:** cypselae (achenes), horseshoecrab-like with a spinelike tip; body obovoid flattish on inner face and convex on outer face, 2.5–4.9 mm long (including spine), light brown, in range body not obviously winged and with slight ridge from base to midpoint, the spine 1.3–2.2 mm long flanked by a pair of curved or straight short teeth, in range with stiff short hairs. Early May–early June.

Naturalized. Annual first observed in range in 2010 at Shalom Camp (SMM) on a heavily used path near a campground, although known also as a weed in lawns of Westwood.

Soliva sessilis vegetatively resembles and is somewhat related to *Matricaria discoidea*, and the two were found at the site in a mixed stand. Cypselae of *S. sessilis* have a terminal “spine,” actually a spinelike extension of the ovary wall through which passes the style to facilitate pollination, and the spine with teeth obviously serves as a dispersal mechanism.

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