

*Spergularia bocconi* (Scheele) Graebn., BOCCONE'S SAND-SPURREY. Annual, slender-taprooted, several-many stemmed at base, much-branched, prostrate with procumbent stems, in range < 10 cm tall; shoots with leaves sometimes appearing tufted (fascicled) from leaves arising on axillary shoots at each node, glabrous below inflorescence, with stalked glandular hairs in inflorescence. **Stems:** cylindric, ca. 1 mm diameter, conspicuously swollen at and just above node, often with a reddish ring below leaf bases, internodes < 20 mm long. **Leaves:** opposite, simple, sessile, with stipules; stipules 2 per node, with pair fused and surrounding stem, triangular, 1–2.5 mm long, scarious, white or pale green aging tan, acute to acuminate or 2-lobed at tip, persistent but often splitting when stem swells above node; blade  $\pm$  cylindric and linear, 5–20  $\times$  < 1 mm, fleshy, entire, acute with point at tip, pinnately veined. **Inflorescence:** dichasial cyme (paired branches not always equally forked), terminal, open, becoming somewhat 1-sided by orientation of pedicels, several to many-flowered, bracteate, with stalked glandular hairs on axes; bract subtending each branch and branchlet 2, fused across each node, leaflike but bracts of lateral branches with some glandular hairs, gradually reduced upward, having stipules like those of leaves; pedicel at anthesis 2–4 mm long increasing  $> 2\times$  in fruit, glandular-hairy. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, 6–7 mm across, dish-shaped; **sepals** 5 (also treated as calyx lobes), with glandular hairs  $>$  hairs of pedicel, the hairs to 0.6 mm long; tube 0.2–0.5 mm long, often with a deep purple spot at base of each sinus; lobes spreading, cupped and narrowly ovate to lanceolate, 1.9–3.2  $\times$  0.8–1.2 mm increasing in fruit, rounded on back, green centrally, striped rose or reddish on edges of green, translucent-scarious on margins, rounded at tip and lacking awn; **petals** 5, ovate to elliptic, 2–2.5 mm long, typically  $\leq$  calyx lobe, rose-lavender (light purplish pink or white) or rose-lavender at tip and fading to white at base; **stamens** 8–10, free, unequal; filaments flattened, inversely spatulate, 0.6–1.9 mm long, translucent; anthers versatile, dithecal, 0.2–0.4 mm long, yellow, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen light yellow; **pistil** 1, short-stalked (stipe), at anthesis < 0.5 mm long; ovary superior, narrowly ovoid, 1.5–2 mm long, truncate at tip, light green, 1-chambered with  $\pm$  65 ovules attached to a central post; styles 3, 0.3–0.4(–0.6) mm long, yellowish, recurved to curly, hairy; stigmas papillate for entire length of inner face. **Fruit:** capsule, dehiscent by 3 valves from tip, many-seeded, ovoid,  $\pm$  = calyx, the valves pale yellow, erect with acute tips. **Seed:** snail-shape compressed side-to-side, 0.35–0.6 mm long, brownish red, somewhat glistening, wingless, partially rimmed, minutely papillate on outer face. Early March–mid-August.

Naturalized. A seldom encountered annual appearing in wet, very shallow ditches in the SMM, where water persists during its growing season. *Spergularia bocconi* in range produces flowers with rose-lavender petals, and this species typically has eight to ten stamens. Seeds of this species are never winged.

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