

*Trifolium albopurpureum* Torrey & A. Gray, INDIAN CLOVER. Annual, taprooted, 1–several-stemmed at base, unbranched or branched at each node, decumbent to erect, 8–30 cm tall; shoots with only cauline leaves, hirsute with hairs to 2 mm long; roots nodulated. **Stems:** cylindric, to 1.5 mm diameter, internodes to 95 mm long, sometimes tinged reddish on exposed side. **Leaves:** helically alternate, palmately 3-foliolate, petiolate without pulvinus, with stipules; stipules 2, wings attached to basal portion of petiole,  $\pm$  appressed, asymmetric-ovate with acuminate tip, 5–8 mm long, with 7–9 green veins raised on lower surface, to midpoint having colorless tissue (purplish) between veins, upper surface glabrous, lower surface hirsute; petiole channeled, 15–65 mm long; petiolules pulvinuslike having wrinkles, < 1 mm long, pale green; blades of leaflets obovate to narrowly oblanceolate, 5–22  $\times$  (2–)3–11 mm, tapered at base, short-serrate mostly above midblade, acute to rounded with tooth at tip (never notched), sometimes teeth red-purple, pinnately veined with midrib slightly sunken on upper surface and principal veins raised on lower surface. **Inflorescence:** headlike spike, terminal and axillary, hemispheroid to ovoid, 10–17 mm across, of many sessile flowers in 5–6 whorls, bracteate; peduncle cylindric, 25–70 mm long increasing in fruit, green aging purplish red, smooth or slightly angled, 6-veined with veins descending from bractlets, glabrous; **involucre** of 6 bractlets subtending spike, bractlets fused forming a vestigial ring, minute, < 0.4 mm long, with membranous margin; rachis 6–10 mm long, angled with concave faces; above involucre bractlets subtending other flowers absent. **Flower:** bisexual, bilateral, pealike (papilionaceous), < 3.5 mm across (calyx wider than corolla); **nectary** nectar-producing receptacle below ovary; **calyx:** 5-toothed, 7.3–8.7 mm long, at anthesis hirsute with ascending hairs to 1.5 mm long aging spreading; tube inversely conic and oblique, 1.3–1.9 mm long (upper side) and 1.1–1.5 mm long (lower side), light green, at least 10-veined, internally glabrous; lobes slightly ascending, subequal, needlelike, 5–6.5 mm long, 0.5–0.6 mm wide at base, straight or slightly curved upward, mostly purplish red but light green at base and internally, featherlike (plumose); **petals** 5, dark to deep purplish red and white or pinkish; banner lanceolate to oblanceolate, 5.7–6.5  $\times$  1.4–2 mm, folded longitudinally and appressed to wings and keel (not upcurved and expand at tip), dark purplish red but light purplish pink at tip, tapered at base, rounded at tip, glabrous; wings clawed, claws slender, 2.3–2.4 mm long, limbs narrowly oblanceolate, 1.6–2.4  $\times$  1–1.1 mm, deep purplish red but white at tip, lobed at base above claw and each coupled to keel petal, acute at tip; keel of 2 petal fused petals above claw on lower edge,  $\pm$  scoop-shaped, claw  $\pm$  2.7 mm long, whitish, limbs  $\pm$  elliptic, 1.8–2  $\times$  0.7 mm (folded width), deep purplish red but white at tip; **stamens** 10, diadelphous (9 filaments fused and 1 free); filament sheet 3.7–4.3 mm, filament free portions 0.6–1.2 mm long, free stamen ca. 3.5 mm long, white; anthers dorsifixed, dithecal, oblong, 0.15–0.2 mm long, yellow, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen yellow; **pistil** 1, 4.4–5.8 mm long; ovary superior, obovoid compressed side-to-side, ca. 1.7  $\times$  0.7 mm, green, thinly pilose from or above midpoint, 1-chambered with 2 ovules attached to upper side; style 2.9–4 mm long, pale green with light green at base and approaching stigma or tinged purplish red above midpoint; stigma flat-obovoid, upcurved at tip of style, yellowish. **Fruit:** pod (legume), indehiscent, 1-seeded, hemi-obovoid compressed side-to-side, ca. 3  $\times$  1.4 mm, to  $\pm$  0.8 mm thick, tannish, membranous and veiny on faces, thick-veined on periphery. **Seed:** compressed-oblong, ca. 2  $\times$  1 mm, dull brown, smooth, with hilum on oblique end. Late March–early May.

Native. Annual only collected to date at two localities in the western portion of range (1960 and 2010), but undoubtedly present periodically in good years. *Trifolium albopurpureum* is hirsute, having relatively long, somewhat stiff hairs, and its stipules have green and colorless stripes. An involucre beneath the spike is lacking because it consists of a vestigial ring of fused, highly reduced bractlets of the lower whorl of six flowers. There are no other bractlets within the spike.

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