

*Trifolium incarnatum* L., CRIMSON CLOVER. Annual, taprooted, several-stemmed at base, ascending, in range < 45 cm tall; shoots with only cauline leaves, conspicuously soft-hairy; roots nodulated. **Stems:** cylindric, to 3 mm diameter, tough, villous. **Leaves:** helically alternate, 3-foliolate, petiolate without pulvinus, with stipules; stipules 2, sheathing and fused to stem at node and to base of petiole, wing oblong to ovate, to 15 mm long, membranous and strongly green-veined or white-veined, lacking teeth and lobes on margin, obtuse at tip and tip never bristlelike, densely pilose especially along veins; petiole  $\pm$  cylindric and channeled,  $\geq$  leaflet at node, lacking pulvinus; petiolules 0.5–1 mm long; blades of leaflets obovate to heart-shaped, 12–27  $\times$  15–28 mm, flat, tapered at base, inconspicuously short-dentate above midpoint, notched or truncate at tip, pinnately veined with midrib raised on lower surface, dull, pilose. **Inflorescence:** headlike raceme, terminal,  $\pm$  erect, cylindric to narrowly conic, at anthesis at least 25 mm long increasing to 60  $\times$  15–20 mm in fruit and appearing like a fuzzy caterpillar, many-flowered, flowers whorled (5–6 whorls per 10 mm in fruit), at anthesis flowers erect to ascending, lacking bracts, villous; peduncle 30–35 mm long; **involucre** of bractlets subtending raceme absent; bractlet subtending pedicel absent; pedicel < 1 mm long. **Flower:** bisexual, bilateral, pealike (papilionaceous), 2 mm across; **nectary** nectar-producing receptacle below ovary; **calyx** 5-lobed, 7–10 mm long, villous; tube bell-shaped, < midpoint, strongly 10-veined; lobes long-acuminate, slightly longer on lower side, margin narrowly membranous approaching base, becoming bristlelike in fruit; **petals** 5; banner folded forward, 10–14 mm long, crimson on exposed portion to pinkish white at base; wings 2, flaring, << banner, clawed, crimson with pinkish white pocket near keel claw, sparsely hairy near pocket; keel of 2 petals partially fused on lower edge only approaching tip, < wings, exposed part crimson, appressed, truncate along most of lower edge, upper margins pink; **stamens** 10, diadelphous (9 filament fused and 1 free); filament sheet  $\pm$  straight, translucent-white, filament free portions 1.5 mm long, pinkish; anthers dorsifixed, dithecal, orangish, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen orangish; **pistil** 1, not stalked; ovary superior, asymmetrically compressed-obovoid, 1 mm long, green, with narrowly conic point, pubescent, 1-chambered with 2 ovules attached to upper side; style translucent whitish; stigma capitate, minute. **Fruit:** pod (legume), indehiscent or irregularly rupturing at tip, 1-seeded, ellipsoid, ca. 3  $\times$  2 mm, membranous aging papery with thin wall tightly appressed to seed, hirsute; dispersed as unit enclosed by expanded calyx tube having 10 fibrous veins. **Seed:** ellipsoid slightly compressed,  $\pm$  2  $\times$  1.5 mm,  $\pm$  dull tan to ivory-colored, smooth. Mid-April–early June.

Waif. Annual collected from two localities in range, the oldest observation years ago in a southern oak woodland near Lake Sherwood, and the recent, vouchered occurrence in 2004 appearing in a full-sun grassy patch along a hiking trail in Malibu Creek State Park (SMM). *Trifolium incarnatum* has elongate heads of crimson flowers, and is included in seed packets of annuals for home gardens. Likely both occurrences of crimson clover in range were due to the seeds being distributed by human, and in the wild this species does not seem to persist for more than a couple years.

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