

Isocoma menziesii (Hooker & Arnott) G. L. Nesom var. *vernonioides* (Nutt.) G. L. Nesom, GREEN-LEAVED DUNE GOLDENBUSH. Subshrub to shrub, with erect, ascending, or decumbent branches, < 120 cm tall; shoots appearing tufted with axillary clusters of leaves, villous or sometimes tomentose, with short-stalked or sessile glandular hairs having \pm spheric heads, aromatic. **Stems:** shallowly and faintly ridged, with 3 ridges descending from each leaf, internodes short, villous + stalked-glandular. **Leaves:** helically alternate, simple, sessile to subsessile, without stipules; blade obovate to oblanceolate, in range 7–48 \times 2–14 mm, long-tapered to broadly tapered or expanded at base, coarsely serrate with sharp points on margins, acute to obtuse or rounded at tip, pinnately veined with midrib sometimes slightly raised on upper surface and conspicuously raised on lower surface, stalked-glandular, villous along basal part of midrib aging short-hirsute. **Inflorescence:** heads in terminal, flat-topped arrays, array 30–250 \times 35–170 mm across, with ascending branchlets terminating in cymelike clusters of 2–9 heads, head discoid, 16–25-flowered (sometimes only 7–12-flowered), bracteate, with short-stalked glandular hairs; lateral cymelike clusters typically on longer branchlets and overtopping the central cluster; bract subtending branchlet tongue-shaped to triangular-ovate, 2–6 \times 1–3.5 mm, entire or toothed on margins, rounded to acuminate at tip; bract subtending peduncle ovate and scalelike, ca. 2.5 mm long; peduncle < 12 mm long, villous to tomentose and with short-stalked glandular hairs, sometimes with 2 bracts at top subtending head; **involucre** \pm cylindrical to narrowly inversely conic, 7.5–10.5 \times 4.5–6 mm, phyllaries 36–52 in 6–8 graded series, elliptic to oblanceolate or narrowly oblong, 2.5–7 \times 0.7–1.7 mm, convex on back, light to pale green at base, membranous and entire or sometimes jagged on margins, darker green or olive green, thick, and resinous or glandular (minute sessile glands) at acute or obtuse tip, with midvein usually evident as a darker line; receptacle 1/4 to 1/3 length of involucre, flat on top, without bractlets (paleae), pitted and honeycombed with erect ridges and teeth surrounding each ovary. **Disc flower:** bisexual, radial, 1–1.3 mm across; **calyx (pappus)** of 62–73 capillary bristles in 3 whorls, unequal in length and width, 0.7–6.5 mm long, white, with shorter and narrower bristles in outer whorl, longer bristles thicker and flattened; **corolla** 5-lobed, 5–6.5 mm long; tube 2.5–3.5 \times 0.3–0.7 mm, the widest and green at base, yellow to greenish yellow above base, 5-veined to 5-angled, sparsely and minutely pubescent on upper tube; throat expanding \pm abruptly above tube, 1.5–2.5 \times 0.8–1.1 mm (midthroat), bright yellow to orange yellow, 5-veined, veins forked at sinuses with branches entering adjacent lobes; lobes erect, acute, 0.5–0.9 \times 0.4–0.6 mm, rimmed with marginal vein; **stamens** 5, fused to corolla at tube midpoint; filaments 1.5–2.5 mm long; anthers fused into cylinder surrounding style, equaling tips of lobes or slightly exerted (to 0.6 mm), basifixed, dithecal, 2–2.5 mm long, yellow, rounded at base of each sac and appendaged at tip, the appendages narrowly triangular to lanceolate, \pm 0.4 mm long, translucent yellow, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen bright yellow; **pistil** 1; ovary inferior, narrowly inversely conic, mostly compressed but not at tip, 5–10-veined, silvery sericeous; style 4.7–7 mm long, 2-branched, the stigmatic branches exerted < 0.5 mm (rarely to 1.7 mm), erect to ascending, 1.1–1.3 mm long, flattened and slightly expanded approaching tip into an acute, papillate stigma. **Fruits:** cypselae, narrowly inversely conic, 3.5–4.2 mm long, light brown, silvery sericeous, 7–10-veined, darker on veins; pappus of 62–73 capillary bristles in 3 whorls, bristles unequal in length and width, 0.7–6.5 mm long, light

tan, the shorter and narrower ones in outer whorl, bristles of inner whorl longer, thicker, and flattened. Late July–mid-November.

Native. Subshrub to shrub and the most common inland form of this species. *Isocoma menziesii* var. *vernonioides* is most easily distinguished as having hairy, weakly ridged stems and hairy leaves with teeth on blade base-to-tip. In range the involucre of this variety seems to be longer and broader than in variety *menziesii*, but the two varieties intergrade, making it difficult to generalize.

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