

HEARTSCALE (*ATRIPLEX CORDULATA*)

California Native Plant Society List 1B



Description

Heartscale is an annual plant of the goosefoot family (Chenopodiaceae). It has stiff stems 4 to 20 inches (10 to 50 cm) tall and many upright branches; both the branches and leaves are grayish and scaly. The small, lower leaves are somewhat heart-shaped, but the upper leaves are egg-shaped. Inconspicuous flowers are present from April to October.

Habitat

Heartscale grows in sandy, alkaline soils of saltbush scrub and grassland communities.

Range/distribution

Within the San Joaquin Valley, it is currently found in Contra Costa, Alameda, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Tulare, Kings, and Kern counties and was formerly known from Yolo, San Joaquin, and Stanislaus counties.

Photo: Robert E. Preston, Ph.D. from Calphotos: seq_num=108511&one=T.

References

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