

Washington Flora Checklist

A checklist of the Vascular Plants of Washington State

Hosted by the University of Washington Herbarium

Family: Melanthiaceae

15 terminal taxa (species, subspecies, and varieties).

The Washington Flora Checklist aims to be a complete list of the native and naturalized vascular plants of Washington State, with current classifications, nomenclature and synonymy.

Taxa included in the checklist:

- * Native taxa whether extant, extirpated, or extinct.
- * Exotic taxa that are naturalized, escaped from cultivation, or persisting wild.
- * Waifs (e.g., ballast plants, escaped crop plants) and other scarcely collected exotics.
- * Interspecific hybrids that are frequent or self-maintaining.
- * Some unnamed taxa in the process of being described.

Family classifications follow [APG IV](#) for angiosperms, PPG I (J. Syst. Evol. 54:563?603. 2016.) for pteridophytes, and Christenhusz et al. (Phytotaxa 19:55?70. 2011.) for gymnosperms, with a few exceptions. Nomenclature and synonymy at the rank of genus and below follows the [2nd Edition of the Flora of the Pacific Northwest](#) except where superseded by new information.

Accepted names are indicated with blue font; synonyms with black font.
Native species and infraspecies are marked with **boldface** font.

Please note: This is a working checklist, continuously updated. Use it at your discretion.

Created from the Washington Flora Checklist Database on May 5th, 2024 at 2:22pm PST.
Available online at <https://burkeherbarium.org/waflora/>

Comments and questions should be addressed to the checklist administrators:
David Giblin (dgiblin@uw.edu)
Peter Zika (zikap941@gmail.com)

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Monocots:

Melanthiaceae [HC2] False-Hellebore Family

Synonyms: (none)

Taxonomy follows APG III (<http://www.mobot.org/mobot/research/apweb/welcome.html>).

References: (none)

Anticlea [HC2]

death camas

Anticlea elegans (Pursh) Rydb. [HC2]

Bull. Torrey Bot. Club 30: 273.

glaucous death-camas

Anticlea coloradensis (Rydb.) Rydb.

Zigadenus alpinus Blank.

Zigadenus elegans Pursh ssp. *elegans* [KZ99]

FNA26: "*Zigadenus elegans* has been treated previously as comprising two varieties, or two subspecies (W. B. Zomlefer 1997b). The western var. or subsp. *elegans* tends to be a smaller plant with a raceme or a 1?2-branched panicle and glabrous, sometimes glaucous leaves and stems; while the eastern var. or subsp. *glaucus* tends to be a larger plant with a paniculate inflorescence and glaucous leaves and stems. Because there is considerable evidence of intergradation between the two entities toward the middle of the range, including overlapping flowering times, they have not been formally distinguished here"

Anticlea occidentalis (A. Gray) Zomlefer & Judd [HC2, OFP]

Novon 12(2): 303.

bronze bells, mission bells, western featherbells

Stenanthella occidentalis (A. Gray) Rydb.

Stenanthium occidentale A. Gray [FNA26, HC]

Stenanthium rhombipetalum Suksd.

FNA26: "*Stenanthium occidentale* is similar to a circum-northern Pacific and Sakhalin Island endemic, *S. sachalinense* F. Schmidt, which may be conspecific (S. M. Kupchan et al. 1961; F. H. Utech 1987)."

Toxicoscordion [HC2]

death-camas, zigadenus, zygadene

Toxicoscordion paniculatum (Nutt.) Rydb. [HC2, JPM2]

Bull. Torrey Bot. Club 30: 272.

sand corn, panicled death-camas

Helonias paniculatus Nutt.

Zigadenus paniculatus (Nutt.) S. Watson [FNA26, HC]

Toxicoscordion venenosum (S. Watson) Rydb. [HC2]

Bull. Torrey Bot. Club 30(5): 272.

meadow death-camas, deadly zygadene

Zigadenus venenosus S. Watson [FNA26, HC]

var. *gramineum* (Rydb.) Brasher [HC2]

Novon 19(3): 295.

common death-camas, grassy death-camas

Toxicoscordion gramineum (Rydb.) Rydb.

Zigadenus gramineus Rydb.

Zigadenus intermedius Rydb.

Zigadenus venenosus S. Watson var. *gramineus* (Rydb.) Walsh ex M. Peck [FNA26, HC]

var. **venenosum** [HC2, JPM2]

coastal death-camas, common death-camas

Toxicoscordion salinum (A. Nelson) R.R. Gates

Zigadenus diegoensis Davidson

Zigadenus salinus A. Nelson

Zigadenus venenosus S. Watson var. *ambiguus* M.E. Jones

Zigadenus venenosus S. Watson var. *venenosus* [FNA26, HC]

FNA26: "The inflorescences of most plants in each population of var. *venenosus* are racemose, but those of a few individuals are paniculate, with a single short basal branch."

Trillium [FNA26, HC, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 1: 339. 1753; Gen. Pl. ed. 5, 158. 1754.

trillium, wake-robin

Trillium albidum J.D. Freeman [FNA26, HC2]

Brittonia. 27: 48, fig. 11.

giant trillium, sessile trillium

Trillium chloropetalum (Torr.) Howell [FNA26, HC], misapplied

Trillium chloropetalum (Torr.) Howell var. *chloropetalum* [FNA26], misapplied

ssp. **parviflorum** (V.G. Soukup) K.L. Chambers & S.C. Mey.s [HC2]

J. Bot. Res. Inst. Texas 5(2): 620.

small-flowered trillium

Trillium albidum J.D. Freeman [FNA26, HC2], misapplied

Trillium parviflorum V.G. Soukup

Trillium crassifolium Piper

Piper, Erythea 7: 104.

thick-leaved trillium, thick-leaved wake-robin

Trillium ovatum Pursh [FNA26, HC, HC2]

Fl. Amer. Sept. 1: 245.

Trillium ovatum Pursh var. *ovatum* [FNA26, HC2]

Trillium scouleri Rydb. ex Gleason

T. *scouleri* historically misapplied to T. *stenosepalum*.

Trillium petiolatum Pursh [FNA26, HC, HC2]

Fl. Amer. Sept. 1: 244.

purple trillium, purple wake-robin

Trillium stenosepalum (R.R.Gates) A.J.Wright

Wayman et al. Madrono 70(3): 158-171.

western white trillium, western wake-robin

T. *scouleri* historically misapplied to T. *stenosepalum*.

Veratrum [FNA26, HC, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 2: 1044. 1753; Gen. Pl. ed. 5: 468. 1754.

corn-lily, false hellebore, skunk-cabbage

Veratrum californicum Durand [FNA26, HC, HC2]

J. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia, ser. 2. 3: 103. 1855.

California false hellebore

var. **californicum** [FNA26, HC, HC2]

J. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia, ser. 2. 3: 103.

skunk cabbage, California wild hellebore

Veratrum eschscholtzii A. Gray var. *watsonii* Baker

Veratrum jonesii A. Heller

Veratrum speciosum Rydb.

Veratrum tenuipetalum A. Heller

FNA26: "N. Chiariello et al. (1980), using the snow-bank-emergent characteristics of *Veratrum californicum*, documented that the plants differing in open versus closed bud morphologies also have different leaf areas, internal temperatures, and rates of early expansion growth. These differences in life-history characteristics are inferentially similar to those of other alpine and northern *Veratrum* species."

var. *caudatum* (A. Heller) C.L. Hitchc. [FNA26, HC, HC2]

Vasc. Pl. Pacif. N.W. 1: 809. 1969.
skunk cabbage, tailed wild hellebore

Veratrum caudatum A. Heller

FNA26: "*Veratrum californicum* var. *caudatum* occurs mostly west of the Cascade Mountains in the Pacific Northwest."

Veratrum insolitum Jeps. [FNA26, HC, HC2]

Fl. Calif. 1: 266.
siskiyou wild hellebore

FNA26: "The only other whitish-flowered species in North America, *Veratrum californicum*, which might be confused with *V. insolitum*, has entire, unfringed tepals, and only slightly hairy ovaries."

Veratrum viride Aiton [FNA26, HC, HC2]

Hort. Kew. 3: 422. 1789.
American false hellebore, green false hellebore, Indian-poke

var. *eschscholtzianum* (Roem. & Schult.) Breitung [FNA26, HC2]

Canad. Field-Naturalist. 71: 49. 1957 (as *eschscholtzii*).
American wild hellebore

Veratrum eschscholtzianum (Roem. & Schult.) Rydb.

Veratrum eschscholtzii A. Gray

Veratrum eschscholtzii A. Gray var. *incriminatum* B. Boivin

Veratrum viride Aiton ssp. *eschscholtzii* (A. Gray) Á. Löve & D. Löve

Veratrum viride Aiton var. *eschscholtzii* (A. Gray) Breitung

Xerophyllum [FNA26, HC, HC2]

Fl. Bor.-Amer. 1: 210. 1803.
basket-grass, beargrass, turkey-beard

Xerophyllum tenax (Pursh) Nutt. [FNA26, HC, HC2]

Gen. N. Amer. Pl. 1: 235.
beargrass, western turkeybeard

Helonias tenax Pursh

Xerophyllum douglasii S. Watson

FNA26: "*Xerophyllum tenax*, variable in plant and flower size, is without evident geographic races (S. M. Maule 1959). Similar in most respects to *X. asphodeloides* but more robust, *X. tenax* typically has twice the number of flowers (F. H. Utech 1978c). The leaf fibers were used by native tribes for garments and decorative, watertight baskets. The bulbous rhizomes were roasted for several days before being eaten."