

Washington Flora Checklist

A checklist of the Vascular Plants of Washington State

Hosted by the University of Washington Herbarium

Family: Cleomaceae

2 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synonymy at the rank of genus and below follows the [2nd Edition of the Flora of the Pacific Northwest](#) except where superceded by new information.

Accepted names are indicated with **blue type**, synonyms with gray type.

Native species and infraspecies are marked with **bold-face type**.

*Non-native and introduced taxa are preceded by an asterisk.

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

Created from the Washington Flora Checklist database on January 17th, 2026 at 2:39pm PT.

Available online at <https://burkeherbarium.org/waflora/>

Comments and questions should be addressed to the checklist administrators:

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Dicots:

Cleomaceae [FNA7, HC2] Spiderflower Family

Cleomella lutea (Hook.) Roalson & J.C.Hall [WTU]

Phytotaxa 205(3): 138. 2015.

yellow beechplant, yellow spiderflower

Cleome lutea Hook.

Cleome lutea Hook. var. *lutea*

Peritoma lutea (Hook.) Raf.

Cleomella serrulata (Pursh) Roalson & J.C.Hall [WTU]

Phytotaxa 205(3): 140. 2015.

Rocky Mountain beechplant, stinkweed

Cleome serrulata Pursh

Peritoma serrulata (Pursh) DC.

FNA7: " Most collections of *Peritoma serrulata* from the northeastern and midwestern United States apparently represent non-persistent waifs or garden escapes. The species has been cultivated as a source of nectar for honeybees since ca. 1880 (L. H. Bailey 1900-1902). It shows considerable variation in fruit size, even within populations. The variation may reflect environmental influences, especially water availability, rather than genetics (H. H. Iltis 1952). "

The seeds and leaves of *Peritoma serrulata* are consumed by the Navajo as food and provide a source of black dye. The leaves have been used as a remedy for insect bites, inflammation, and intestinal upsets (L. S. M. Curtin 1947). "

Polanisia [FNA7, HC, HC2]

Amer. J. Sci. 1: 37. 1819.

clammyweed