

Washington Flora Checklist

A checklist of the Vascular Plants of Washington State Hosted by the University of Washington Herbarium

Family: Boraginaceae

84 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synonymy at the rank of genus and below follows the [2nd Edition of the Flora of the Pacific Northwest](#) except where superseded by new information.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 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 April 1st, 2025 at 11:50am PT.
Available online at <https://burkeherbarium.org/waflora/>

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Dicots:

Boraginaceae [Draft FNA, HC, HC2] Borage Family

Taxonomy follows recent molecular studies: Weigend, M., Federico Luebert, Marc Gottschling, Thomas L.P., Couvreur, Hartmut H. Hilger and James S. Miller. 2013. From capsules to nutlets? phylogenetic relationships in the Boraginales. *Cladistics* (2013) 1?11. Nazaire, M., and L Hufford. 2012. A Broad Phylogenetic Analysis of Boraginaceae: Implications for the Relationships of *Mertensia*. *Systematic Botany* 37(3): pp. 758?783.

Adelinia [HC2]

Adeline

Adelinia grandis (Douglas ex Lehm.) J.I. Cohen [HC2]

Systematic Botany 40(2): 617. 2015.

Adeline's hound's-tongue, Pacific hound's-tongue, grand hound

Cynoglossum grande Douglas ex Lehm. [HC]

Amsinckia [HC, HC2]

amsinckia, fiddleneck, tarweed

Amsinckia intermedia Fisch. & C.A. Mey. [HC, HC2]

Index Seminum [St.Petersburg (Petropolitanus)] ii. 26. 1836.

fireweed fiddleneck, rancher's fiddleneck

Amsinckia intermedia Fisch. & C.A. Mey. var. *intermedia*

Amsinckia menziesii (Lehm.) A. Nelson & J.F. Macbr. var. *intermedia* (Fisch. & C.A. Mey.) Ganders [JPM]

Amsinckia lycopsoides Lehm. [HC, HC2]

Delectus seminum quae in horto Hamburgensium botanico e collectione anni 1831 mutuae commutationi offeruntur. 1831.

bugloss fiddleneck, tarweed fiddleneck

Amsinckia menziesii (Lehm.) A. Nelson & J.F. Macbr. [HC, HC2]

Bot. Gaz. 61(1): 36. 1916.

harvest fiddleneck, rigid fiddleneck, rancher's fireweed

Amsinckia menziesii (Lehm.) A. Nelson & J.F. Macbr. var. *menziesii* [JPM]

Amsinckia micrantha Suksd.

Amsinckia retrorsa Suksd. [HC, HC2]

Deutsche Bot. Monatsschr. 18: 134. 1834.

harvest fiddleneck, rigid fiddleneck

Amsinckia spectabilis Fisch. & C.A. Mey. [HC, HC2]

Index Seminum [St.Petersburg (Petropolitanus)] 2: 26 (-27). 1836.

seaside amsinckia, seaside fiddleneck

Amsinckia scouleri I.M. Johnst.

var. *spectabilis* [HC2, JPM]

seaside amsinckia, seaside fiddleneck

Amsinckia tessellata A. Gray [HC, HC2]

Proc. Amer. Acad. Arts x. 54. 1874.

bristly amsinckia, bristly fiddleneck, tessellate fiddleneck

var. *tessellata* [HC2, JPM]

bristly amsinckia, bristly fiddleneck, tessellate fiddleneck

****Anchusa*** [HC, HC2]

alkanet, anchusa, bugloss

**Anchusa azurea* Mill. [HC, HC2]
Gard. Dict., ed. 8. n. 9. 1768.
Italian alkanet, Italian bugloss

*var. *azurea* [HC2]
Italian alkanet, Italian bugloss

**Anchusa officinalis* L. [HC, HC2]
Sp. Pl. 1: 133. 1753.
common alkanet, common bugloss

**Asperugo* [HC, HC2]
catchweed, madwort

**Asperugo procumbens* L. [HC, HC2]
Sp. Pl. 1: 138. 1753.
catchweed, madwort

**Borago* [HC, HC2]
borage

**Borago officinalis* L. [HC, HC2]
Sp. Pl. 1: 137. 1753.
borage, common borage

**Buglossoides* [HC2]
gromwell

**Buglossoides arvensis* (L.) I.M. Johnst. [HC2]
Journal of the Arnold Arboretum 35. 1954.
corn gromwell, field gromwell

Lithospermum arvense L. [HC]

Cryptantha [HC, HC2]

cryptantha, white forget-me-not
(see also *Greeneocharis*)

Cryptantha affinis (A. Gray) Greene [HC, HC2]
Pittonia 1(7): 119. 1887.
quill cat's-eye, common cryptantha, slender cryptantha
Krynitzkia affinis A. Gray

Cryptantha ambigua (A. Gray) Greene [HC, HC2]
Pittonia 1(7): 113. 1887.
basin cat's-eye, obscure cryptantha, wilke's cryptantha

Cryptantha fendleri (A. Gray) Greene [HC, HC2]
Pittonia 1(7): 120. 1887.
sand dune cat's-eye, Fendler's cryptantha

Cryptantha flaccida (Douglas ex Lehm.) Greene [HC, HC2]
Pittonia 1(7): 115. 1887.
weakstem cat's-eye, flaccid cryptantha

Cryptantha gracilis Osterh. [HC2, JPM]
Bull. Torrey Bot. Club 30(4): 236. 1903.
narrow-stem cryptantha, slender cryptantha

Cryptantha grandiflora Rydb. [Draft FNA, HC2]
Bull. Torrey Bot. Club 36(12): 679?680. 1909.
large-flowered cryptantha
(see also *Cryptantha intermedia*)

Cryptantha intermedia (A. Gray) Greene var. *grandiflora* (Rydb.) Cronquist [HC]

Cryptantha intermedia (A. Gray) Greene [HC, HC2]

Pittonia 1(7): 114. 1887.

Clearwater cat's-eye, common cryptantha
(see also *Cryptantha grandiflora*)

Cryptantha fragilis M. Peck

var. *hendersonii* (A. Nelson) Jeps. & Hoover [HC, HC2]

Fl. Calif. [Jepson] 3: 339. 1943.

Henderson's common cryptantha

Cryptantha hendersonii (A. Nelson) Piper ex J.C. Nelson

Cryptantha pterocarya (Torr.) Greene [HC, HC2, JPM]

Pittonia 1(7): 120. 1887.

wingnut cryptantha

var. *pterocarya* [HC2]

wingnut cryptantha

Cryptantha rostellata (Greene) Greene [HC, HC2]

Pittonia 1(7): 116. 1887.

beaked cryptantha

Cryptantha rostellata (Greene) Greene var. *spithamea* (I.M. Johnst.) Jeps.

Cryptantha scoparia A. Nelson [HC, HC2]

Botanical Gazette 54(2): 144-145. 1912.

pinyon desert cat's-eye, desert cryptantha

Cryptantha simulans Greene [HC, HC2]

Pittonia 5(26B): 54. 1902.

pine woods cat's-eye, pine woods cryptantha

Cryptantha torreyana (A. Gray) Greene [HC2, JPM2]

Pittonia 1(7): 118. 1887.

Torrey's cryptantha

Cryptantha torreyana (A. Gray) Greene var. *pumila* (A. Heller) I.M. Johnst.

Similar to *C. ambigua*, and they intergrade.

var. *torreyana* [HC2]

Torrey's cryptantha

Cryptantha watsonii (A. Gray) Greene [HC, HC2]

Pittonia 1(7): 120. 1887.

Watson's cryptantha

****Cynoglossum*** [HC, HC2]

hound's-tongue

(see also *Adelinia*)

****Cynoglossum officinale*** L. [HC, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 1: 134. 1753.

common hound's-tongue

****Echium*** [HC, HC2]

viper's bugloss

****Echium vulgare*** L. [HC, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 1: 139. 1753.

common viper's bugloss

Eritrichium [HC, HC2]

eritrichium, alpine forget-me-not, false forget-me-not

Eritrichium argenteum W. Wight [Draft FNA, HC2]

Bull. Torrey Bot. Club 29(6): 411?412. 1902.
alpine forget-me-not

Eritrichium nanum (Vill.) Schrad. ex Gaudin [HC]

Eritrichium nanum (Vill.) Schrad. ex Gaudin [HC], misapplied

Eritrichium nanum (Vill.) Schrad. ex Gaudin var. *elongatum* (Rydb.) Cronquist [HC], misapplied

Greeneocharis [HC2]

Greeneocharis

Greeneocharis circumscissa (Hook. & Arn.) Rydb. [HC2]

Bull. Torrey Bot. Club 36(12): 677. 1909.

cushion cryptantha, matted cryptantha

Cryptantha circumscissa (Hook. & Arn.) I.M. Johnst. [HC, JPM]

var. circumscissa [HC2]

Cryptantha circumscissa (Hook. & Arn.) I.M. Johnst. var. *circumscissa*

Cryptantha circumscissa (Hook. & Arn.) I.M. Johnst. var. *hispidata* (J.F. Macbr.) I.M. Johnst.

Greeneocharis circumscissa (Hook. & Arn.) Rydb. var. *circumscissa* [Abrams]

Gruvelia [HC2]

little combseed, little pectocarya

Gruvelia pusilla A. DC. [Draft FNA, HC2]

Prodr. [A. P. de Candolle] 10: 119. 1846.

little gruvelia

Pectocarya pusilla (A. DC.) A. Gray [HC]

Hackelia [HC, HC2]

wild forget-me-not, hackelia, stickseed

Hackelia americana (A. Gray) Fernald [HC2]

Rhodora 40: 341. 1938.

nodding stickseed

Hackelia deflexa (Wahlenb.) Opiz ssp. *americana* (A. Gray) Á. Löve & D. Löve

Hackelia deflexa (Wahlenb.) Opiz var. *americana* (A. Gray) Fernald & I.M. Johnst. [HC]

Lappula deflexa (Wahlenb.) Garcke ssp. *americana* (A. Gray) Hultén

Hackelia ciliata (Douglas ex Lehm.) I.M. Johnst. [HC, HC2]

Contributions from the Gray Herbarium of Harvard University 68: 46. 1923.

Okanogan stickseed

Hackelia cinerea (Piper) I.M. Johnst. [HC, HC2]

gray stickseed

Hackelia diffusa (Lehm.) I.M. Johnst. [HC, HC2]

Contr. Gray Herb. 68: 48 1923.

diffuse stickseed

var. arida (Piper) R.L. Carr [HC2]

Mem. New York Bot. Gard. 26(1): 190. 1976.

sagebrush stickseed, steppe stickseed

Hackelia arida (Piper) I.M. Johnst. [HC]

Taxonomy follows Gentry and Carr (1976).

var. cottonii (Piper) R.L. Carr [HC2]

Mem. New York Bot. Gard. 26(1): 192. 1976.

Cotton's stickseed

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var. diffusa [HC2]

Contr. Gray Herb. 68: 48. 1923.
diffuse stickseed

Hackelia saxatilis (Piper) Brand

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Hackelia floribunda (Lehm.) I.M. Johnst. [HC, HC2]

Contr. Gray Herb. 68: 46. 1923.
many-flowered stickseed

Hackelia hispida (A. Gray) I.M. Johnst. [HC, HC2]

Contr. Gray Herb. 68: 46. 1923.
hispid stickseed, rough stickseed

var. *disjuncta* R.L. Carr [HC2]

Mem. New York Bot. Gard. 26(1): 180-181, f. 16. 1976.
sagebrush stickseed

var. *hispida* [HC2]

Contr. Gray Herb. 68: 46. 1923.
rough stickseed

Hackelia micrantha (Eastw.) J.L. Gentry [HC, HC2]

Madroño 21(7): 490. 1972.
meadow forget-me-not, blue stickseed

Hackelia jessicae (McGregor) Brand

Hackelia taylorii Harrod, Malmquist & R.L. Carr [HC2]

Journal of the Botanical Research Institute of Texas 7(2): 652-657, f. 4. 2013.
Taylor's stickseed

Hackelia venusta (Piper) H. St. John [HC, HC2]

Research Studies of the State College of Washington 1(2): 104. 1929.
lesser showy stickseed

****Lappula*** [HC, HC2]

stickseed

Lappula longispina [HC2], unpublished name

long-spined stickseed

Lappula occidentalis (S. Watson) Greene [HC2]

western stickseed

var. *cupulata* (A. Gray) Higgins [FNA]

Brigham Young Univ. Sci. Bull., Biol. Ser. 16(3): 62. 1972.
cupulate stickseed

Lappula occidentalis (S. Watson) Greene var. *stricta* (S. Watson) Rolfsmeier [HC2], unpublished

****Lappula squarrosa*** (Retz.) Dumort. [HC2, JPM2]

Fl. Lit. Inch. 1: 25. 1781.
bristly sheepburr, bristly stickseed, common stickseed, European stickseed, bristly-fruited tickweed

Lappula echinata Gilib. [HC]

Lithospermum [HC, HC2]

(see also *Buglossoides*)

Onosmodium [HC]

Lithospermum incisum Lehm. [HC, HC2]

Pl. Asperif. Nucif. 2: 303. 1818.
fringed stoneseed

This species is known in Washington from a single historical collection (1926) from Osoyoos Lake. It is possible that this species is extirpated from Washington.

Lithospermum ruderale Douglas ex Lehm. [HC, HC2]

Nov. Stirp. Pug. 2: 28. 1830.

Lithospermum lanceolatum Rydb., Invalid name

****Lycopsis*** [HC2]

bugloss, small bugloss

****Lycopsis arvensis*** L. [HC2]

Sp. Pl. 1: 139. 1753.

annual bugloss, European bugloss, small bugloss

Anchusa arvensis (L.) M. Bieb. [JPM]

ssp. *arvensis [HC2]

annual bugloss, European bugloss, small bugloss

Mertensia [HC, HC2]

bluebells, lungwort, mertensia

Mertensia amoena A. Nelson [HC2]

Bot. Gaz. 30(3): 195. 1900.

beautiful bluebells, sagebrush bluebells

Mertensia oblongifolia (Nutt.) G. Don var. *amoena* (A. Nelson) L.O. Williams [JPM]

Mertensia brachycalyx Piper [HC2]

Contr. U.S. Natl. Herb. xi. 477. 1906.

short-sepaled bluebells

Mertensia ciliata (E. James ex Torr.) G. Don [HC, HC2]

Gen. Hist. 4: 372. 1837.

mountain bluebells, streamside bluebells, tall fringed bluebells

Mertensia ciliata (E. James ex Torr.) G. Don var. *subpubescens* (Rydb.) J.F. Macbr. & Payson [HC2]

Mertensia foliosa A. Nelson [HC2]

Bull. Torrey Bot. Club 26(5): 243 (-244). 1899.

leafy bluebells

Mertensia longiflora Greene [HC, HC2]

Pittonia 3(18A): 261. 1898.

long-flowered bluebells, trumpet bluebells, long-flowered lungwort

Mertensia paniculata (Aiton) G. Don [HC, HC2]

Gen. Hist. iv. 318. 1837.

northern bluebell, tall bluebell

var. *borealis* (J.F. Macbr.) L.O. Williams [HC, HC2, JPM]

Ann. Missouri Bot. Gard. 24(1): 49. 1937.

northern bluebell

(see also *Mertensia brachycalyx*)

var. *paniculata* [HC, HC2, JPM]

Gen. Hist. 4: 318. 1837.

tall bluebell

Mertensia platyphylla A. Heller [HC, HC2]

Bull. Torrey Bot. Club 26(10): 548-549. 1899.

broadleaf bluebell

Mertensia platyphylla A. Heller var. *platyphylla*

Mertensia platyphylla A. Heller var. *subcordata* (Greene) L.O. Williams

Mertensia umbratilis Greenm. [HC, HC2]

Erythea 7(11): 118-119. 1899.

shade bluebell

Myosotis [HC, HC2]

forget-me-not, scorpion-grass

***Myosotis arvensis** (L.) Hill [HC, HC2]

Veg. Syst. 7: 55. 1764.

field forget-me-not, field scorpion-grass

***Myosotis discolor** Pers. [HC, HC2]

Syst. Veg. (ed. 15) 190 [1798]. 1797.

yellow and blue forget-me-not, yellow and blue scorpiongrass

Myosotis versicolor (Pers.) Sm.

Myosotis laxa Lehm. [HC, HC2]

Pl. Asperif. Nucif. 1: 83. 1818.

bay forget-me-not, small forget-me-not

***Myosotis ramosissima** Rochel.

Oestr. Fl., ed. 2 1: 366, adnot. 1814.

early forget-me-not

***Myosotis scorpioides** L. [HC, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 1: 131. 1753.

common forget-me-not, true forget-me-not, water forget-me-not

Myosotis palustris (L.) Hill

***Myosotis stricta** Link ex Roem. & Schult. [LBC2]

blue scorpion-grass

Myosotis micrantha Pall. ex Lehm., misapplied

The name *M. micrantha* is a misapplied name for this species.

***Myosotis sylvatica** Ehrh. ex Hoffm. [HC, HC2, Stace 1997]

Deut. Fl. 1: 61. 1791.

woodland forget-me-not

Myosotis alpestris F.W. Schmidt [Davis 1952, HC2], misapplied

This is the common garden escape, often confused with *M. arvensis* (Stace 1997).

Myosotis verna Nutt. [HC, HC2]

Gen. N. Amer. Pl. 2: Add. 1818.

early forget-me-not, spring forget-me-not, early scorpion-grass, spring scorpion-grass

Myosotis macrosperma Engelm. [Peck], misapplied

Myosotis virginica (L.) B.S.P. [Abrams]

Oreocarya

oreocarya

Oreocarya glomerata (Pursh) Greene

Pittonia 1(2): 58. 1887.

cockscorn oreocarya

Cryptantha celosioides (Eastw.) Payson [HC, HC2]

Cryptantha sheldonii (Brand) Payson

Oreocarya celosioides Eastw.

Oreocarya sheldonii Brand

Oreocarya leucophaea (Douglas ex Lehm.) Greene

Pittonia 1(2): 58. 1887.

gray oreocarya

Cryptantha leucophaea (Douglas ex Lehm.) Payson [HC, HC2]

Oreocarya spiculifera Piper [FNA, OFP]

Contr. U.S. Natl. Herb. 11: 481. 1906.

Snake River cat's-eye, Snake River oreocarya

Cryptantha interrupta (Greene) Payson [HC], misapplied
Cryptantha spiculifera (Piper) Payson [HC2]

Oreocarya thompsonii (I.M. Johnst.) Abrams

Ill. Fl. Pacific States 3: 600. 1951.

Thompson's cat's-eye, Thompson's oreocarya

Cryptantha thompsonii I.M. Johnst. [HC, HC2]

Pectocarya [HC, HC2]

combseed, pectocarya
(see also *Gruvelia*)

Pectocarya penicillata (Hook. & Arn.) A. DC. [HC2, IFBC]

Prodr. 10: 120. 1846.

shortleaf combseed, winged pectocarya

Pectocarya linearis (Ruiz & Pav.) DC. var. *penicillata* (Hook. & Arn.) M.E. Jones [HC]

Pectocarya setosa A. Gray [HC, HC2]

Proc. Amer. Acad. Arts 12: 81. 1876.

bristly combseed

****Pentaglottis*** [HC2]

alkanet

****Pentaglottis sempervirens*** (L.) Tausch ex L.H. Bailey [HC2, IFBC]

Flora 12: 643. 1829.

green alkanet

Anchusa sempervirens L.

Plagiobothrys [HC, HC2]

plagiobothrys, popcorn-flower

Plagiobothrys cognatus (Greene) I.M. Johnst. [HC2, JPM]

Contr. Arnold Arbor. 3: 59. 1932.

cognate popcorn-flower

Allocarya cognata Greene

Plagiobothrys cusickii (Greene) I.M. Johnst. [HC2, JPM]

Contr. Arnold Arbor. 3: 63. 1932.

matted popcorn-flower

Allocarya cusickii Greene

Plagiobothrys scouleri (Hook. & Arn.) I.M. Johnst. var. *cusickii* (Greene) Higgins

Plagiobothrys scouleri (Hook. & Arn.) I.M. Johnst. var. *penicillatus* (Greene) Cronquist [HC]

Plagiobothrys figuratus (Piper) I.M. Johnst. ex M. Peck [HC, HC2]

Man. Pl. Oregon 609. 1941.

fragrant popcorn-flower

Allocarya figurata Piper [Abrams]

var. *figuratus* [HC2]

fragrant popcorn-flower

Plagiobothrys figuratus (Piper) I.M. Johnst. ex M. Peck ssp. *figuratus*

Plagiobothrys hirtus (Greene) I.M. Johnst. var. *figuratus* (Piper) I.M. Johnst.

Plagiobothrys hispidulus (Greene) I.M. Johnst. [HC2, JPM]

Contr. Arnold Arbor. 3: 71. 1932.

harsh popcorn-flower

(see also *Plagiobothrys cognatus*, *Plagiobothrys cusickii*)

Allocarya hispidula Greene

Plagiobothrys scouleri (Hook. & Arn.) I.M. Johnst. var. *hispidulus* (Greene) Dorn

***Plagiobothrys leptocladus* (Greene) I.M. Johnst. [HC, HC2]**

Contr. Arnold Arbor. 3: 38. 1932.

alkali popcorn-flower, slender-branched popcorn-flower

***Plagiobothrys nothofulvus* (A. Gray) A. Gray [HC, HC2]**

Proc. Amer. Acad. Arts xx. 285. 1885.

rusty popcorn-flower

***Plagiobothrys scouleri* (Hook. & Arn.) I.M. Johnst. [HC, HC2]**

Contr. Gray Herb. 68: 75. 1923.

Scouler's popcorn-flower

(see also *Plagiobothrys cognatus*, *Plagiobothrys cusickii*, *Plagiobothrys hispidulus*)

Allocarya granulata Piper

Allocarya scouleri (Hook. & Arn.) Greene

Plagiobothrys granulatus (Piper) I.M. Johnst.

Plagiobothrys scouleri (Hook. & Arn.) I.M. Johnst. var. *scouleri* [HC]

***Plagiobothrys tenellus* (Nutt. ex Hook.) A. Gray [HC, HC2]**

Proc. Amer. Acad. Arts 20: 283. 1885.

Pacific popcorn-flower, slender popcorn-flower

Plagiobothrys asper Greene

**Pulmonaria*

**Symphytum* [HC, HC2]

comfrey

**Symphytum asperum* Lepech. [HC, HC2]

Ber. Thätigk. St. Gallischen Naturwiss. Ges. 1876--77: 296 (Gen. Sp. Musc. 2: 1114). 1878.

prickly comfrey, rough comfrey

(see also *Symphytum uplandicum*)

Symphytum asperrimum Donn ex Sims

**Symphytum officinale* L. [HC, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 1: 136. 1753.

common comfrey

**Symphytum xuplandicum* Nyman [HC2, Stace 1997]

Syll. Fl. Eur. 80. 1855.

hybrid comfrey