

Ericameria parishii (Greene) Hall

Parish goldenweed

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Synonyms. *Haplopappus parishii* (Greene) Blake, *Aplopappus parishii* (Greene) Blake, *Bigelovia parishii* Greene, *Chrysoma parishii* Greene.

Other common names. Parish goldenrod, Parish goldenbush, Parish heathgoldenrod.

Growth habit, occurrence, and uses. An erect shrub, Parish goldenweed has a mature height of 1 to 2.5 m (Jepson 1951). Plants 15 years old have attained heights of 2 m and crown spreads of 1.2 m (Everett 1957). Parish goldenweed occurs in the lower parts of the chaparral belt between 460 and 2,130 m of elevation in the mountains of southern California and Baja California (Munz and Keck 1959). Frequently, it is found on outwash fans and exposed hillsides. The primary value of this species is for erosion control on dry slopes (Ratliff 1974).

Flowering and fruiting. Parish goldenweed will flower and bear seeds at 2 years of age and produce seeds each year thereafter (Everett 1957). Flowering takes place from July to October (Munz and Keck 1959), and ripe seeds may be collected in October and November (Mirov and Kraebel 1937). The fruit of Parish goldenweed is a single-seeded achene (figure 1) that is handled as a seed. The achenes are about 2 mm long (figure 2), and there are about 3,600 cleaned achenes/g (101,900/oz) (Mirov and Kraebel 1937).

Collection, cleaning, and storage. Achenes are usually collected by hand and separated from their bristles by rubbing and blowing (Ratliff 1974). There are no known studies of storage, but the seeds are probably orthodox and can be easily stored at low temperatures and moisture contents.

Germination. Parish goldenweed seeds are not dormant, and no pretreatments are required to stimulate germination (Emery 1964). Seeds sown on sand began germinating in 4 days, and a maximum of 95% was obtained (Mirov and Kraebel 1937). Germination is, however, usually much lower (about 20%) because of a high percentage of defective seeds (Ratliff 1974). Parish goldenweed may also be propagated by cuttings (Jepson 1951).

Literature Cited

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