

Vascular Plants of Williamson County
Bouchetia erecta – ERECT BOUCHETIA [Solanaceae]

Bouchetia erecta DC., ERECT BOUCHETIA. Perennial herb, from slender perennial root, not rosetted, several–many-stemmed at base, principal branches spreading to ascending, in range to 20 cm tall; shoots with ascending leaves, uniformly short-hairy, with appressed to upward-curved hairs to 0.4 mm long and having scattered minute glandular hairs with colorless heads. **Stems:** cylindrical, to 2 mm diameter, wiry. **Leaves:** helically alternate, simple, petiolate (lower leaves) and short-petiolate to sessile (upper cauline leaves), without stipules; petiole of lower leaves channeled and to 10 mm long and cylindrical when < 0.5 mm long and indistinct from blade; blade narrowly elliptic to narrowly oblong or narrowly lanceolate to ovate (lower leaves), 8–25 × 2–9 mm, tapered at base, entire, blunt-acute at tip, pinnately veined with only midrib conspicuous and raised on lower surface. **Inflorescence:** flower solitary at fork of diverging branches scattered throughout the canopy, lacking bracts, stiff short-hairy; pedicel cylindrical, at anthesis to 10 mm long, densely short-hairy. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, 7–13 mm across; in bud corolla with deep vertical dimples above calyx lobes; **calyx** 5-lobed, funnel-shaped, ca. 9–10 mm long increasing in fruit, green; tube at anthesis narrowly fusiform, ca. 6.5 × 4 mm, 10-veined and low 10-ridged, arched short-strigose; lobes subequal (1 narrower), ascending, oblong to oblanceolate, 3.8–4.2 × 0.5 mm, raised midvein not extended to tip; **corolla** 5-lobed, funnel-shaped, 12–14.5 mm long, white or blushed pink-purple (purplish rose and pleated in bud); tube glossy white, 4-sided; throat with ca. 15 veins (3 raised veins into each lobe), outer surface with scattered short hairs exposed in bud; lobes rounded, ca. 1.5 mm long; **stamens** 5, fused to and decurrent from corolla base; filaments 3.5–6 mm long, 2 shorter, channeled below midpoint; anthers dorsifixed, dithecal, 0.5–0.7 mm, light yellow, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen light yellow; **nectary disc** surrounding base of ovary, ± 1.2 mm diameter, orangish, with thin cover over the lower portion; **pistil** 1, ± mm long; ovary superior, ovoid, ca. 3 × 1.4 mm, green with fine purplish streaks, 2-chambered, each chamber with many ovules attached to center; style ca. 6.5, axis 0.35 mm diameter, pale green, glabrous, flared to broad concave stigma, stigma at level of corolla orifice and slightly above level of anthers, saddle-shaped, ca. 1.3 mm across, wet, light green to yellowish. **Fruit:** capsule, 4-valved, many-seeded, 5.5–6 mm long, brown, valves erect, triangular-ovate, ca. 3.5 × 2 mm; calyx mostly hiding capsule, tube tight-fitting, with arching short hairs, lobes ascending, 4–5 mm long, >> valves. **Seed:** somewhat heart-shaped, in that orientation ca. 1 × 0.7 mm, brown to reddish brown, pitted with fine network (reticulate) of raised walls.

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