

## Vascular Plants of Williamson County

*Chaetopappa asteroides* var. *asteroides* – SAND LEASTDAISY, TINY LAZY DAISY  
[Asteraceae]

*Chaetopappa asteroides* (Nutt.) DC. var. *asteroides*, SAND LEASTDAISY, TINY LAZY DAISY. Annual, slender-taprooted, not rosetted, 1-stemmed at base, with several ascending, axillary branches forming canopy with inflorescences, 3.5–30 cm tall; ± monoecious (some bisexual disc flowers); shoots with basal leaves and several–many cauline leaves, cauline leaves spaced and not overlapping, stems slender and foliage diminutive, stiff short-hairy lower surface and canopy with scattered, inconspicuous, tiny glandular hairs aging orangish on leaves. **Stems:** cylindric, < 1 mm diameter, with upward-pointing short hairs and sometimes short-strigose. **Leaves:** helically alternate, simple, petiolate (basal and cauline leaves) and not clasping, without stipules; petiole flattened top-to-bottom, indistinct from blade, to 4 mm long, flared at base, ± short-strigose with upward-pointing hairs and short-ciliate on margins, blade obovate or spatulate (basal leaves) to oblanceolate or linear, 5.5–11 × 0.5–3 mm, tapered to long-tapered at base, entire, obtuse (basal leaves) to acute with short whitish point at tip (cauline leaves), with 1 midrib raised on lower surface, surfaces short-strigose with upward-pointing hairs. **Inflorescence:** heads, solitary terminal on short, axillary branchlets, axillary branchlets with 1–2 bracts along axis, head radiate, 6–8.5 mm across, of 5–13 pistillate ray flowers and 6–15 disc flowers, disc flowers bisexual next to ray flowers but in center flowers functionally staminate, bracteate; bract subtending peduncle leaflike and linear; peduncle slender, mostly < 25 × 0.3–0.4 mm, green, short-strigose with upward-pointing hairs and scattered minute glandular hairs, bracts along peduncle widely spaced, linear, to 4 mm long, short-acuminate at tip, short-strigose and having glandular hairs, lacking bracts at top (calyculus); **involucre** appearing ribbed (= raised backs of phyllaries), at anthesis ± cylindric truncate at top (cylindroturbinate), in range 3–4 × 2–4.5 mm, light yellow-green, of 11–16 phyllaries in 2–3 series, outer 3–4 phyllaries ovate, 1.2–2 mm long (below midpoint of involucre, outer phyllaries elliptic to oblanceolate, 3–3.5 mm long, green and 1-veined with colorless wide membranous margins aging scarious and short-fringed above midpoint, green back short-strigose with upward-pointing hairs and inconspicuous glandular hairs; receptacle essentially flat, lacking bractlets (paleae), lacking pits, glabrous. **Ray flower:** bilateral, mostly 1 mm across; **calyx (pappus)** in 2 whorls, outer whorl of several colorless, short scales < 0.5 mm long, inner whorl of 4–6 awnlike bristles, 1.5–2.3 mm long, colorless aging tawny; **corolla** rounded, 5–6.5 mm long; tube cylindric, 1–1.3 × 0.15–0.2 mm, pale greenish, glabrous; limb obovate, 3–4.5 × ca. 1 mm, white or bluish, glabrous, aging coiling under 2×; **stamens** absent; **pistil** 1, ± 2.7 mm long; ovary inferior, cylindric, 0.7 × 0.15 mm, light green finely 5-veined, with dense short hairs and minute glandular hairs, 1-chambered with 1 ovule; **nectary disc** at top of ovary surrounding narrow base of style; style exerted ca. 1 mm, 2-branched, lower portion yellowish, exerted portion light yellow, the stigmatic branches to 0.5 mm long. **Bisexual disc flower:** radial, 0.7 mm across, 2.5–3 mm long; **calyx (pappus)** in 2 whorls, outer whorl of several colorless, short scales < 0.5 mm long, inner whorl of < 5 awnlike bristles, < 0.8–1.2 mm long, colorless aging tawny; **corolla** 5-lobed, in bud having some minute stalked glandular hairs above midpoint; tube ± cylindric, ca. 0.5 mm long, colorless; throat narrowly funnel-shaped,

lower portion colorless and upper portion yellow, faintly 5-veined; lobes triangular,  $\pm 0.4$  mm long, bright yellow; **stamens** 5, arising at top of corolla tube; filaments ca. 1 mm long, yellowish; anthers fused into cylinder surrounding style, basifixed, dithecal, ca. 1.2 mm long, sacs yellow, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen light yellow; **pistil** 1, ca. 2.2 mm long; ovary inferior, cylindric,  $0.65\text{--}0.7 \times 0.15$  mm, light green finely 5-veined, with dense short hairs and minute glandular hairs, 1-chambered with 1 ovule; **nectary disc** at top of ovary surrounding narrow base of style, ca.  $0.05 \times 0.1$  mm, greenish; style included, in bud green aging white, 2-branched, the stigmatic branches appressed, ca. 0.3 mm long ca. midpoint of anthers. **Staminate disc flower:** radial, 0.7 mm across; **calyx (pappus)** vestigial or absent; **corolla** 5-lobed, in bud having some minute stalked glandular hairs above midpoint; tube  $\pm$  cylindric, ca. 0.5 mm long, colorless; throat narrowly funnel-shaped, lower portion colorless and upper portion yellow, faintly 5-veined; lobes triangular,  $\pm 0.4$  mm long, bright yellow; **stamens** 5, arising at top of corolla tube; filaments ca. 1 mm long, yellowish; anthers fused into cylinder surrounding style, basifixed, dithecal, ca. 1.2 mm long, sacs yellow, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen light yellow; **pistil** 1, sterile; ovary inferior, 0.3 mm long, pale green, minutely ribbed, chamber vestigial. **Fruits:** cypselae (achenes), of ray flowers and bisexual disc flowers, ellipsoid drying compressed side-to-side, mostly  $1.6\text{--}2 \times 0.3$  mm, brown, short-strigose with upward-pointing hairs; pappus of an outer whorl of colorless scales  $< 0.5$  mm long and an inner whorl of tawny, ascending awnless bristles to 2.3 mm long.

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