

## Vascular Plants of Williamson County

*Dalea drummondiana* var. *drummondiana* – DRUMMOND PRAIRIE-CLOVER [Fabaceae]

*Dalea drummondiana* Shinn. var. *drummondiana*, DRUMMOND PRAIRIE-CLOVER.

Perennial herb, not rosetted at base, several-stemmed at base, principal branches spreading with many leaves of unexpanded axillary shoots, in range to 30 cm tall; shoots with only cauline leaves, loosely pubescent with fine, non-straight hairs, conspicuously gland-dotted having raised glands on stems and leaves, pleasantly aromatic when crushed. **Stems:** cylindrical, to 4 mm diameter, sometimes red-tinged and older stems faintly striped.

**Leaves:** helically alternate, odd-1-pinnately compound with (4–)6–9 pairs of subopposite to opposite lateral leaflets, petiolate with pulvinus, with stipules; stipules 2, attached to base of petiole, narrowly acuminate to linear, < 3 mm long, often tinged purple-red, pubescent, ± persistent; petiole to 5.5 mm long, curved outward, pulvinus < 1 mm long, white to pale green, above pulvinus narrowly channeled, glands to 0.3 mm across; rachis channeled, 9–15 mm long; petiolules ± 0.4 mm long, white, with several hairs; blades of leaflets elliptic to narrowly obovate, 3–4.5 × 1–1.8 mm, thickish, entire, acute at tip, 1-veined and somewhat folded upward from midrib, upper surface short-pilose, lower surface with conspicuous glands. Inflorescence: spike, terminal on principal branches, initially narrowly cone-shaped, 8–9 mm diameter, to 75 mm long and cylindrical in fruit, many-flowered, flowers helically alternate in ca. 13 files and tightly arranged with short internodes, bracteate, finely puberulent and with conspicuously raised glands; peduncle ± ridged, < 75 mm long above the uppermost cauline leaf, tough; rachis densely soft-hairy; bractlet subtending flower with upper portion arching over flower bud, acuminate maturing triangular, ca. 3 × 1 mm, purple-red, keeled below midpoint, short-pilose and pilose on outer (lower) surface and glabrous on upper surface, with 2 opposite bracteoles at base of flower, bracteoles linear, ca. 0.5 mm long, white aging reddish, persistent. **Flower:** bisexual, ± bilateral, ca. 5 mm across; **calyx** 5-lobed, ± 3-sided and compressed by adjacent flowers and bractlets, ca. 2.5 mm long; tube cup-shaped, white, having 3 hairy ridges to sinuses of upper lobes, densely soft-hairy with downward-pointing short-hairs; upper lobes 2 deltate and lower 3 lobes triangular-ovate, ca. 1 mm long, broadly acute to rounded, with a deep sinus between deltate lobes, green aging dark red or with some green, having a conspicuous ring of raised glands in red portion, outer surface glabrous or glabrate, inner surface densely soft-hairy; **petals** 5, banner free, wings and keel petals fused to stamens alternating with free filaments, clawed, pure white; banner ca. 5.5 mm long, claw linear, 3–3.3 mm long, limb inversely heart-shaped to broadly arrow-shaped, and somewhat cupped upward (never flat), 2.1–2.5 × 2.2–2.5 mm, broadly acute to rounded at tip; wings 2 and keels 1, equal, claws slender, 1.2–1.4 mm long, limbs oblanceolate, 2.7–5 × 0.5–0.6 mm, obtuse to acute at tip; **stamens** 5, monadelphous (5 fused as a sheet), sheet at top having 5 exerted filaments alternating with 4 exerted petals (2 wings + 2 keel petals, sometimes interpreted as staminodes); filament sheet open with ovary bulging out on upper side, 1.6–1.8 mm long, white, free filaments spreading, 2–2.5 mm long, white; anthers dorsifixed, dithecal, 1–1.1 mm long, bright yellow to orange-yellow, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen yellow; **nectary** tissue at base of ovary, nectar-producing, nectar thin; **pistil** 1; ovary ovoid, 1 × 0.7 mm, ± green, densely short-villous, 1-chambered with 2 ovules; style straight to midpoint then curving upward, ca. 4.5 mm long, white, densely

short-villous on lower style on upper side; stigma terminal, exerted above anthers, minute.

**Fruit:** pod (legume), indehiscent, 1-seeded, abscised within pubescent calyx, hatchet-shaped compressed side-to-side, ca.  $2.3 \times 1.8$  mm, colorless at base to tannish around short-villous above midpoint, lacking conspicuous glands. **Seed:** heart-shaped, ca.

1.4–1.6 mm, dull brown, hard.

A. C. Gibson