

## Vascular Plants of Williamson County

### *Evolvulus nuttallianus* – HAIRY EVOLVULUS [Convolvulaceae]

*Evolvulus nuttallianus* Roemer & Schult., HAIRY EVOLVULUS. Perennial herb, with slender caudex, not rosetted, several-stemmed from base, branches ascending to spreading, 7–15 cm tall; shoots with only ascending, cauline leaves, leaves overlapping, densely stiff-hairy with  $\pm$  appressed, unequally 2-armed hairs (appearing sericeous) with arms oriented with axis. **Stems:** cylindric, to 1 mm diameter, the lowest internode to 15 mm long decreasing upward, in canopy internodes  $< 3$  mm long, leaf  $>$  internode. **Leaves:** helically alternate, simple, short-petiolate, without stipules; petioles  $\pm 0.5$  mm long; blade lanceolate to narrowly elliptic (oblanceolate), (3–)7–14  $\times$  1.8–3.2 mm, tapered at base, entire, acute at top, venation obscured by hairs, surfaces with similar amounts of pubescence, arms of hairs  $\pm$  straight, stiff, 1.2–2 mm long. **Inflorescence:** 1-flowered cyme (solitary flower), axillary, bracteate; bract and 2  $\pm$  opposite bractlets subtending pedicel (not hiding calyx), lanceolate-linear, 1.2–1.6  $\times$  0.2–0.25 mm, with stiff, 2-armed hairs on green surfaces, persistent; pedicel at anthesis ascending and 1–1.5 mm long increasing 2 $\times$  and curved downward in fruit. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, ca. 10 mm across; **calyx** 4–5-lobed, only 0.4 mm at base, when 4 lobes opposite decussate, when 5 lobes helically alternate and overlapping; tube glabrous on inner surface; lobes unequal, acuminate-ovate 3–3.4  $\times$  1–2 mm, inner lobes wider than outer lobes, entire, if 4-lobed 1 tip sometimes notched at tip, green, “sericeous” with 2-armed hairs on both surfaces, persistent and hairy; **corolla** scarcely 5-lobed, funnel-shaped, ca. 8 mm long, pleated and twisted in bud; tube short, white; throat pale violet to light blue-violet but paler spokes to lobe tips and lower throat greenish opposite flared bases of filaments, somewhat folded along spokes above midpoint, outer (lower) surface with long hairs (where exposed when twisted in bud), inner (upper) surface with hairs  $< 0.4$  mm long; **stamens** 5, fused to top of corolla tube near base; filament flared and green at base above flattened front-to-back and white, 1 mm long; anthers dorsifixed, dithecal, arrow-shaped, 0.7–0.8 mm long, white, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen white; **nectary disc** obscure; **pistil** 1, ca. 5 mm long; ovary superior,  $\pm$  conic, 0.8  $\times$  0.8 mm, compressed  $\perp$  to septum, depressed at top with 4 short rounded lobes, light green, glabrous, 2-chambered, each chamber with 2 ovules; style erect, from depression at top of ovary, 4 mm long, white, 2-branched at midpoint, the branches suberect, with terminal stigma. **Fruit:** capsule, 1–2-seeded, broadly obovoid, 3.3–4 mm long with short pyramidal point at top, glabrous, brown seeds showing color through tannish fruit wall. **Seed:** not observed.

A. C. Gibson