

Vascular Plants of Williamson County

Leucospora multifida – CUTLEAF CONOBEA [Plantaginaceae/Scrophulariaceae]

Leucospora multifida (Michx.) Nutt., CUTLEAF CONOBEA. Annual, taprooted, 1-stemmed at base, branching at most nodes, branches opposite decussate or in whorls of 3 (canopy), with ascending shoots, to 20 cm tall; shoots with only cauline leaves, leaves symmetrically pinnately lobed, with scattered, radiating, short glandular hairs. **Stems:** cylindrical, < 0.8 mm diameter, with straight hairs to 0.45 mm long. **Leaves:** opposite decussate and in canopy whorled with 3 leaves, ± symmetrically 1–2-pinnately lobed with 3 or 5 principal lobes paired lobes decreasing upward, petiolate, without stipules; petiole channeled, to 6 mm long; blade ovate in outline, to 8 × 8 mm, length = width, lobes narrowly oblanceolate to narrowly fan-shaped, to 5 × 1.5 mm, with an extra tooth or sublobe close to lobe tip, obtuse at tip, pinnately veined with the midrib slightly sunken on upper side and sparsely visible on lower side. **Inflorescence:** flowers axillary, 1–3 per node, horizontal; pedicel spreading, at anthesis 1.5–3 mm long increasing 2× in fruit, glandular-hairy. **Flower:** bisexual, bilateral, in range ca. 1.5 mm across; **sepals** 5, fused only at base, subequal, linear, 2.3–2.7 × 0.3–0.4 mm increasing to 3–3.3 mm long, 1 sepal to 0.3 mm longer, with spreading, colorless glandular hairs to 0.25 mm long; **corolla** 2-lipped, 5-lobed, ca. 4 mm long; tube 1 mm diameter, white; throat narrowed to 0.7–0.8 mm at midpoint, lower side with some yellow; lips pale lavender, upper lip 2-lobed, heart-shaped, 1.2 × 1.6 mm; lower lip 3-lobed, subequal, obovate with short-point at tip, ca. 1.5 × 1 mm, having several short hairs along midvein; **stamens** 4, of 2 lengths, attached 1 mm from base of corolla tube with shorter 2 on lower side; filaments 1 mm long and 1.5–1.7 mm long, white; anthers dorsifixed, dithecal, 0.3–0.5 mm long, white, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen white; **pistil** 1; ovary superior, ovoid, ca. 1 × 0.5 mm, light green, glabrous, 2-chambered, each chamber with many ovules; style flaring to and slightly bent approaching stigma, to 0.8 mm long, pale green to whitish; stigma at level of short stamens. **Fruit:** capsule, loculicidal, 2-valved, many-seeded, ovoid, ca. 3 × 1.5 mm, subequal with calyx, valves papery, each valve with 2 spreading teeth, often having a persistent style. **Seed:** ellipsoid, 0.25–0.35 × 0.2 mm, mostly colorless and opaque, having ca. 6 longitudinal ridges of cells, light weight, often with brown remnant of funiculus attached.

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