

Vascular Plants of Williamson County

Myosotis macrosperma – BIG-SEEDED SCORPIONGRASS, SPRING FORGET-ME-NOT
[Boraginaceae]

Myosotis macrosperma Engelm., BIG-SEEDED SCORPIONGRASS, SPRING FORGET-ME-NOT. Annual, slender-taprooted, not rosetted, 1–2-stemmed at base, with ascending branches, in range to 25 cm tall; shoots with only cauline leaves, hispid with hairs to 1 mm long having bulbous bases (pustulate), not hooked. **Stems:** 2-ridged, in range to 4.5 mm diameter, initially with 2 low ridges descending from each cauline leaf, green. **Leaves:** helically alternate, simple and sessile, without stipules; blade narrowly obovate to narrowly elliptic-oblong, in range 14–67 × 5–13 mm, tapered at base, entire, obtuse with a callus tip, midrib slightly sunken on upper surface and raised on lower surface. **Inflorescence:** cyme, terminal on main and lateral stems, 10+-flowered, not conspicuously 1-sided, buds and open flowers coiled at tip, flowers at anthesis stalked, lacking bracts, ± strigose with upward-pointing hairs; peduncle cylindrical, < 10 mm long; rachis internodes at anthesis ± 1.5 mm long increasing to 35 mm long in fruit; pedicel 1–1.5 mm long increasing 2× and arching in fruit, initially densely hispid aging strigose with upward-pointing hairs. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, 2 mm across; **calyx** unequally 5-lobed, at anthesis with erect lobes becoming ascending to spreading; at anthesis 2–2.5 mm long increasing 3× in fruit, green, densely covered with colorless, stiff, hooked hairs (uncinate) ± 1 mm long, the hook curved toward the flower; tube cup-shaped, to midpoint and ± 1.2 mm wide; lobes acute-triangular, lower > 2 lateral > 2 upper lobes, each usually 3-veined; **corolla** 5-lobed, short-shaped, white, glabrous; tube + throat 2.4–2.7 mm long, > calyx, the widest at base around ovary 1.2 mm gradually tapered to 0.5–0.6 mm wide at orifice, with 2 small, scalelike appendages at base of each lobe; lobes equal, broadly ovate, ca. 0.5 × 0.5 mm; **stamens** 5, fused to corolla tube < 1 mm above base, anthers at same height, included; filaments 0.1–0.15 mm long, white; anthers dorsifixed, dithecal, ca. 2 mm long and orange-reddish + colorless tip to 0.15 mm long, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen orangish; **nectary disc** beneath ovary inconspicuous; **pistil** 1, included; ovary superior, deeply 4-lobed, ca. 0.35 mm long, lobes spheroid, green, glabrous, 4-chambered, each chamber with 1 ovule; style arising from center of ovary lobes, 0.6–0.7 × 0.2 mm not increasing in fruit, pale green, glabrous; stigma capitate, green. **Fruits:** nutlets, 2(–4) and opposite with 2 opposite aborted, erect, lens-shaped ovate, ± 2 × 1.7 × 0.75 mm, glossy brown (greenish brown) and smooth, narrowly rimmed, obtuse at tip, glabrous.

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