

Vascular Plants of Williamson County
Pediomelum linearifolium – SLIMLEAF SCURFPEA [Fabaceae]

Pediomelum linearifolium (Torrey & A. Gray) J. W. Grimes, SLIMLEAF SCURFPEA.

Perennial herb, taprooted forming enlarged root, not rosetted, 1-stemmed at base, having an open canopy with little branching, in range to 120 cm tall; shoots typically with only cauline leaves, gland-dotted (careful examination required) embedded in tissue, short-strigose. **Stems:** somewhat ridged, to 1.5 mm diameter except at base, with 3 slight ridges from each leaf, tough, internodes 20–60 mm long, \geq leaf, glands mostly green so not conspicuous, short-strigose with upward-pointing hairs; lateral shoot with pulvinus at base on upper side. **Leaves:** helically alternate, palmately 3-foliolate, short-petiolate with pulvinus, with stipules; stipules 2, attached to stem node and also base of petiole pulvinus, acuminate, $2.5\text{--}3.5 \times < 1$ mm, conspicuously gland-dotted with red glands; petiole pulvinus 1 mm long, axis above pulvinus cylindric, < 3 mm long, short-strigose with upward-pointing hairs; stipels absent; petiolule = pulvinus, 1.5–2 mm long, yellow-green; blades of leaflets subequal, linear, $< 13\text{--}38 \times 1.3\text{--}3$ mm, somewhat folded upward from midrib, long-tapered at base, entire, acute at tip, with only midrib conspicuous and slightly raised on lower surface, upper surface inconspicuously gland-dotted and with raised minor veins, glabrous to glabrate, lower surface and margins short-strigose with upward pointing hairs. **Inflorescence:** raceme, axillary, spreading, 10+-flowered with 2–3 flowers per node, bracteate, gland-dotted, short-strigose; peduncle cylindric, 0.5 mm diameter, green and striped, internode to 50 mm long, $>$ internode $>$ leaf, with purple pulvinus on upper side at base, gland-dotted between fibers; rachis to 4 nodes, to 14×0.2 mm, $<$ peduncle, green, short-strigose; bract subtending set of pedicels at node, ovate, 1.5–2 mm long, green with red glands, short-ciliate on margins; bractlet subtending each pedicel obscure; pedicel lax, somewhat angled at base, 5–7 mm long, $>$ calyx, not gland-dotted, short-strigose. **Flower:** bisexual, bilateral, pealike (papilionaceous), 4–5 mm across; **nectary disc** on receptacle surrounding pistil, green, producing abundant nectar; **calyx** 5-lobed, 4 mm long, purplish with conspicuous green glands; tube \pm bell-shaped, ca. 2×2 mm, faintly 10-veined, outer surface short-strigose with upward-pointing hairs, inner surface glabrous; lobes unequal, upper 2 lobes triangular-ovate, 1.3 mm long, lateral 2 lobes 1–1.1 mm long, lower lobe ca. 1.7 mm long, lobes conspicuously white short-ciliate, short-strigose especially inner (upper) surface; **petals** 5; banner obovate, ca. $8.5 \times 4\text{--}5$ mm, lower portion somewhat clawlike = inverted triangle ca. 3 mm long, white, upper portion with not folded and with a pair of short basal lobes, below midpoint white to light pink-purple above with a set of purple radiating nectar guides 1 mm from rounded tip; wings 2, 7–7.5 mm long, $<$ banner, clawed, claws linear, 3.5–4 mm long, white, limbs oblong with backward-point basal lobe 0.7 mm long on lower side, white at base to purple above midpoint; keel of 2 petals fused ca. 2 mm on lower side to tip, ca. 5.5 mm long, $<$ wings, adherent but not fused to wings, clawed, claws linear, 3.5–4 mm long, white, limbs hatchet-shaped with semicircular backward-pointing basal lobe, ca. 3×1.5 mm, white at base to dark purple from below midpoint; **stamens** 10, diadelphous (9 fused and 1 free), ca. 6 mm long; filament sheet straight with short upward bend to filaments, glossy white, free portions alternating 5 with 4 shorter and scarcely visible, longer filaments somewhat ovate and 0.5–0.6 mm, white; anthers pollinating stigma in bud, dorsifixed, dithecal, 0.5–0.6 mm

long, pale yellow, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen white; **pistil** 1, short-stalked (stipe), stalk to 0.4 mm long increasing in fruit; ovary superior, narrowly D-shaped, ca. 1.2×0.4 mm, yellow-green, tapered at top, glabrous and gland-dotted especially approaching top, 1-chambered with 1 ovule attached to upper side; style 4.5–5 mm long, white (greenish at base), strongly curved backward within keel with stigma surrounded by anthers; stigma capitate, hemispheroid, 0.25 mm wide. **Fruit:** pod (legume), papery, indehiscent but irregularly ruptured on upper side by growth of seed, ovoid with long beak, chamber ca. 6.5×4 mm with inflated beak ± 3.5 mm long, light brown with many red glands. **Seed:** oval to somewhat kidney-shaped, ca. $6 \times 4 \times 2$ mm, brown, hard; hilum not centered.

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