

Vascular Plants of Williamson County
Petunia parviflora – WILD PETUNIA [Solanaceae]

Petunia parviflora Juss. (syn. *Calibrachoa parviflora*), WILD PETUNIA. Annual, taprooted, several-stemmed at base, principal branches tufted with unexpanded axillary shoots at many nodes, prostrate (decumbent), in range to 4 cm tall; with only cauline leaves, shoots densely glandular-pubescent, the hairs with bulbous bases and tannish heads, not ill-smelling. **Stems:** cylindric, to 1 mm diameter, internodes 3–10+ mm long, densely glandular-pubescent. **Leaves:** helically alternate (lower cauline leaves) and subopposite (upper cauline leaves + flower), simple, petiolate on lower stem and ± sessile on upper stem, without stipules; petiole channeled, to 1.5 mm long, < blade; blade oblanceolate to spatulate (lower cauline leaves), in range 4–10 × 1.2–3 mm, tapered at base, entire, rounded at tip, midrib only visible on lower surface, appearing bladderlike (vesicular) due to bulbous bases of glandular hairs. **Inflorescence:** leafy racemelike terminal shoots (flowers solitary), with a flower at node but not visually axillary to “leaf,” at same node with truly axillary new shoot from other leaf at approximately same level, bracteate, densely glandular-pubescent; bractlet leaflike, positioned to the side of pedicel; pedicel ± 0.7 mm long increasing 2× in fruit, appearing bladderlike (vesicular) where tops of glandular hairs missing. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, ca. 2 mm across; **calyx** 5-lobed, 7–8 mm long, persistent around developing fruit; tube cup-shaped, ca. 2 mm long, striped green alternating with membranous tissue and having green continue into lobes; lobes unequal, leaflike, oblanceolate, 3.5–6 mm long, rounded at tip, densely glandular-pubescent; **corolla** 5-lobed, trumpet-shaped (short-salverform), ca. 6 mm long, glandular-pubescent, in bud lobes twisted; tube-throat inversely narrowly conic, 4.8–5.2 mm long, at base 0.5 mm wide expanded during fruit enlargement and ca. 1.2 mm wide at orifice, tube pale green, throat pale violet, 5-veined with violet veins continuous into lobes; lobes initially pleated, broadly triangular and short, 0.5–0.6 × 0.8–1 mm, pale to light violet, with raised violet midvein on lower surface; **stamens** 5, fused to corolla tube above base at different heights, 4 stamens fused to corolla tube at same level, 1 short stamen fused at top of tube; filaments unequal, 1–2.7 mm long, light green, glabrous; anthers included, dorsifixed, dithecal, 0.5–0.6 mm long, yellow aging yellow orange, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen light yellow; **nectary disc** = 2 triangular swellings on base of ovary, 0.2 mm long, pale yellowish green; **pistil** 1; ovary superior, ovoid, ca. 1.3 × 0.8 mm, green, glabrous, 2-chambered, each chamber with many ovules attached to center; style ± 2.7 mm long, pale green; stigma included but slightly above level of anthers, capitate, ca. 0.3 mm wide, green, minutely papillate. **Fruit:** capsule, dehiscent by 2 ovate, terminal valves, many-seeded, ovoid, 4.5–5 mm long, tannish brown; calyx lobes remaining green after fruit dehiscence. **Seed:** ovoid-oblong to spheric, ± 0.5 mm long, light brown with frosted highlights, with low, netlike ridges forming pits.

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