

## Vascular Plants of Williamson County

*Physaria recurvata* – PLATEAU BLADDERPOD, GASLIGHT BLADDERPOD [Brassicaceae]

*Physaria recurvata* (A. Gray) O’Kane & Al-Shehbaz, PLATEAU BLADDERPOD, GASLIGHT BLADDERPOD. Annual, taprooted, rosetted, several-stemmed at base, spreading to decumbent, in range < 30 cm tall; shoots with basal leaves and cauline leaves, green surface with appressed stellate hairs seastarlike with 6–12 arms, the arms arising from the center (not fused) and center domelike, arms with minute projections (tuberculate). **Stems:** ± cylindric, ca. 1 mm diameter, tough and wiry, internodes < leaves, appressed stellate hairs scattered. **Leaves:** helically alternate, simple, petiolate, without stipules; petiole ± hemicylindric, 11–15 mm long (basal leaves) and = blade, decreasing upward, with scattered appressed stellate hairs; blade obovate to elliptic, 11–24 × 4–8.5 mm, tapered to long-tapered at base (not clasping), entire or having remote teeth on margins, acute to obtuse at tip, pinnately veined with midrib raised on lower surface, stellate hairs uniformly distributed. **Inflorescence:** raceme or panicle of racemes, terminal, 12+-flowered, = upper 1/2 of plant, typically without bracts, with appressed stellate hairs on exposed green tissues; peduncle stemlike, cylindric; bract subtending lateral raceme leaflike (diminutive); rachis somewhat angled with ridge descending from each pedicel; pedicel cylindric, at anthesis 3–5 × 0.5 mm increasing 2× and conspicuously recurved in fruit. **Flower:** bisexual, ± radial, ca. 6 mm across; **sepals** 4, ascending, oblong-lanceolate to narrowly elliptic, ± 2.5 × 0.7–0.8 mm, light yellow-green densely covered with appressed stellate hairs outer (lower) surface and glabrous inner (upper) surface; **petals** 4, in range 4–5 × 2 mm, ± clawed (poorly defined), claw 1.5–2 mm long, colorless with yellow midvein, limb obovate somewhat cupped upward, 2–3 mm long, bright yellow, rounded at tip, venation obscure; **stamens** 6, free, slightly dimorphic, with outer 2 short and inner 4 longer; filaments erect, 4–5 mm long in each flower, light yellow; anthers dorsifixed-versatile, dithecal, 0.7–1.2 mm long, yellow, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen yellow; **nectaries** 4 in 2 pairs at bases of short stamens, green; **pistil** 1, 3–3.3 mm long, subsessile with minute stalk (stipe) at anthesis < 0.1 mm long; ovary superior, flat-circular flattened parallel to septum, ca. 1 × 0.8 mm, glabrous and slightly glaucous, 2-chambered, each chamber with several ovules; style cylindric, at anthesis ca. 2 mm long, light yellow-green to green approaching stigma; stigma capitate, terminal, at level of the long stamens, hemispheroid, short-papillate. **Fruit:** siliqua (silicle), dehiscent by 2 valves parallel to septum, to 10-seeded, subspheroid, ca. 3 mm, inflated, septum complete and slightly raised on surface, glabrous and somewhat glaucous, persistent beak (style) straight to 3.5 mm long; pedicel distinctly recurved, 5–15 mm long; stipe beneath siliqua < 0.5 mm long. **Seed:** lens-shaped, ca. 1 mm long, brown, lacking wing, smooth; cotyledons acumbent.

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