

Isocoma Nutt. GOLDENBUSH

Isocoma menziesii (Hooker & Arnott) G. L. Nesom var. *sedoides* (Greene) G. L. Nesom, PROSTRATE COASTAL GOLDENBUSH. Subshrub, somewhat sclerophyllous, many-stemmed at base, with spreading to prostrate (ascending) branches, in range \pm hemispheric, 20–40(–65) cm tall; shoots often appearing tufted with unexpanded axillary shoots, almost glabrous to densely villous or tomentose and leaves having tack-shaped glandular hairs in sunken pits, the nonglandular hairs grayish, swollen at base and shaggy, not resinous, aromatic. **Stems:** ridged or angled, on young stems < 2 mm diameter, with 1 or 3 angles and ridges descending from each leaf. **Leaves:** helically alternate, simple, subsessile, without stipules; blade obovate to oblanceolate, 7–23(–38) \times 3–10.5 mm, thick, tapered and clasping at base, dentate to serrate on margins with each tooth having a short point, obtuse to rounded at tip, pinnately veined with midrib slightly raised on lower surface, green, with an elaborate network of minor veins, lightly mottled by excretions from sunken glands and becoming \pm scurfy when dry often with shaggy (septate) hairs. **Inflorescence:** heads, in terminal, compact cylindrical and flat-topped or slightly domed arrays, array of 4–10(–19) heads, head discoid, 4–5 mm across, with 14–22 flowers, bracteate, with sunken, tack-shaped glandular hairs; bract subtending branchlet leaflike, oblanceolate to oblong or roundish, 6–9 \times 2.5–4 mm, clasping at base; axes typically with hairs like stems; bract subtending peduncle lanceolate to oblong or oblong-ovate, 3–7 mm long, green to yellow-green, clasping, entire or serrate, green, typically not resinous; peduncle 0–4 mm long; **involucre** \pm cylindrical aging inversely conic, (7–) 9–10 \times 3.3–4 mm, phyllaries 30–36 in several series, oblong to linear, 2.5–7 \times 0.8–1.3 mm, broadly acute and ciliate at tip, thick, green along midvein and above midpoint (purple at tip), membranous on margins, green tissue with sunken glandular hairs, resinous; receptacle 1/4 to 1/3 length of involucre, without bractlets (paleae), pitted and honeycombed with a crownlike structure of fleshy, erect, unequal white teeth surrounding each ovary. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, 0.7–1.2(–1.5) mm across; **calyx (pappus)** of 35–65 capillary bristles in 1 whorl, unequal, 1–4.3 mm long, white to tannish white; **corolla** 5-lobed, 5–6 mm long; tube cylindrical, 1.7–2 mm long, light greenish yellow; throat 2.5–2.7 mm long, yellow at base to bright yellow above, abruptly expanded at midpoint, glandular-hairy below midpoint, ridged below sinuses; lobes erect, acute, ca. 0.7 \times 0.5 mm, yellow, rimmed; **stamens** 5, fused to corolla at base of throat; filaments \pm 2 mm long; anthers fused into cylinder surrounding style, exerted ca. 0.5 mm, basifixed, dithecal, \pm 2 mm long, yellow, with tips free for \pm 0.5 mm, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen bright yellow; **pistil** 1; ovary inferior, inversely conic compressed, 5-ribbed, densely covered with silky, upward-pointing hairs, 1-chambered with 1 ovule; style 5–7 mm long, 2-branched, the branches exerted, erect to ascending, flattened spatulate or linear, 1–1.2 mm long, yellow aging brownish orange, stigmatic, acute and papillate at tip. **Fruits:** cypselae, narrowly inversely conic, 2–2.6 \times 0.8 mm, light tan, 5-ribbed, hairy between ribs with white hairs ascending to appressed and \pm 0.3 mm long; pappus of 35–65 capillary bristles in 1 whorl, unequal, 1–4.3 mm long, tannish white. Mid-May–mid-July.

Native. Subshrub occurring along coastline just above the beach on coastal bluffs, typically below 50 meters elevation, such as at Point Dume. *Isocoma menziesii* var.

sedoides commonly is low and wind-swept like neighboring shrubs. It differs in small ways from other forms of *I. menziesii*, and because its habitat abuts that of the other varieties, intergrading is observed, so that our plants can be more hairy, presumed from intergrading with neighboring variety *vernonioides*.

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