

*Monolopia* DC. FALSE TURTLEBACK, HILLTOP DAISY

*Monolopia lanceolata* Nutt., COMMON HILLTOP DAISY, COMMON HILLSIDE DAISY, LANCELEAF MONOLOPIA. Annual, taprooted, not rosetted, typically 1-stemmed at base, branched in canopy with the uppermost axillary shoots each terminating in an inflorescence, erect, in range 7–50(–90) cm tall; shoots ± spiderweblike (arachnoid-woolly). **Stems:** low-ridged, to 7 mm diameter, with 3 fine ridges descending from each leaf, ± woolly in a longitudinal pattern. **Leaves:** opposite at basal 2 or 3 nodes, helically alternate above, simple, sessile (sometimes nearly clasping on upper cauline leaves), without stipules; blade lanceolate to linear-lanceolate or linear, 13–110 × 1.5–32 mm, dentate to subentire and often somewhat inrolled under on margins, rounded to acuminate with blunt point at tip, pinnately veined with 3 principal veins from near base and midrib raised on lower surface, dull and arachnoid-woolly. **Inflorescence:** heads, terminal, solitary or canopy = a loose, leafy, cymelike array with 1 head per lateral shoot, head radiate, 13–45 mm across, showy with 5 or 8 bright yellow ray flowers and in range 12–many golden yellow disc flowers, bracteate; bract subtending each peduncle leaflike, linear-lanceolate, typically somewhat inrolled under on margins; peduncle 15–65(–125) mm long, densely white-woolly; bracts along peduncle 0–2, resembling bract subtending peduncle but shorter; **involucre** hemispheric, in range 5–12 mm wide + the radiating to spreading tips of phyllaries, densely gray-woolly, phyllaries 5 or 8 in 1 series opposite ray flowers, acute-obovate, 6–9 mm long, with tip appressed to limb of ray flower, free but appearing fused because of intertwined hairs, the hairs becoming blackish at tip; receptacle conic, without bractlets (paleae), hollow beneath receptacle. **Ray flower:** pistillate, bilateral, 4–11 mm across; **calyx (pappus)** absent; **corolla** with small lobe opposite the (2–)3-toothed limb; tube 1.5–2.5 mm long, greenish, with colorless glandular hairs; limb elliptic-oblong to broadly oblong-obovate, 4.5–18 mm long, bright yellow, truncate to obtuse at tip with conspicuous teeth, with veins raised on lower surface and 3(4) converging for each tooth; small lobe erect, 0.5–1.2 mm long, typically short-fringed; **stamens** absent; **pistil** 1; ovary inferior, inversely conic, (2.5–)3.5 mm long, gray or white, conspicuously 3-sided, short-strigose, 1-chambered with 1 ovule; style exerted, 2-branched, the branches ascending and somewhat recurved, linear, to 2 mm long, grooved on inner surface, glabrous; **nectary** = bulbous base of style, nectar produced but often not observed. **Disc flower:** bisexual, radial, 3 mm across; buds with erect, golden yellow, club-shaped hairs from corolla tip; **calyx (pappus)** absent; **corolla** 5-lobed, 3–5 mm long; tube 1.5 mm long, yellowish, glandular-hairy; throat abruptly flaring, yellowish, sparsely glandular-hairy, containing copious nectar; lobes deltate and recurved, 0.8 mm, golden yellow, dull, papillate; **stamens** 5, filaments fused to corolla tube, exerted 1 mm; filaments ± 0.5 mm long; anthers fused into cylinder surrounding style, basifixed, dithecal, ± 1.5 mm long, yellow, terminated by a deltate flap, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen yellow; **pistil** 1; ovary inferior, narrowly angled and inversely conic, 2.5–3 mm long, grayish or white, short-strigose, 1-chambered with 1 ovule; style barely spreading above anthers after pollen discharged, 2-branched, the branches grooved and glabrous on inner side, short-pubescent on outer surface, bluntly pointed and papillate at tip; **nectary** = bulbous base of style, nectar often copious. **Fruits:** cypsela, dimorphic, 3-angled (ray flower) and 4-angled (disc flower), narrowly inversely conic and compressed, in range

2.8–3.5 × 1–1.3 mm, ± straight, black, densely brown short-strigose. Early February–mid-May.

Native. Annual occasionally observed on open and grassy slopes in SMM and SH. For our local Asteraceae, presence of the small lobe opposite the flower limb is a unique feature for this species.

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