

Phacelia Juss.

Phacelia ramosissima Lehm., BRANCHING PHACELIA. Perennial herb, rhizomatous, not rosetted, many-stemmed at base, principal branches ascending to decumbent and long-spreading, with shorter, ascending branches at each cauline node, in range 50–150 cm tall; shoots with widely spaced cauline leaves, puberulent and densely glandular-hairy through and sparsely to moderately hispid becoming densely hispid in inflorescence, the hispid hairs to 2.5 mm long and bulbous at base, the glandular hairs mostly 0.2–1 mm long, stalked with amber heads aging darker or losing head and appearing nonglandular. **Stems:** low-ridged, to 8 mm diameter, with internodes 4-ridged having 2 ridges descending from each leaf, somewhat zigzagged, green, with scattered, sharp hairs; solid. **Leaves:** helically alternate, odd-1-pinnately compound with subopposite or alternate leaflets to pinnately lobed, petiolate, without stipules; petiole channeled, to 70 mm long (scaling with blade size), green; blade oblong to widely ovate in outline, 20–300 × 7–120 mm with the larger leaves compound, > petiole; compound leaves with 1–5 deeply lobed lateral leaflets per edge and an irregularly dissected and deeply lobed terminal leaflet; rachis channeled like petiole, densely glandular-hairy; petiolules to 3 mm long on lower leaflets to sessile above; blades of lateral leaflets ovate to oblong or elliptic, 5–70 × 3–38 mm, dull, with 2–5 lobes per edge, irregularly and coarsely toothed on margins, pinnately veined with principal veins sunken on upper surface and conspicuously raised on lower surface, mostly lacking long hispid hairs, terminal leaflet 3-lobed or 5(7 or 9)-lobed, ± rhombic or trowel-shaped to ovate, to 120 mm long, crenate on margins, pinnately veined like lateral leaflets; simple leaf like leaflet of a compound leaf. **Inflorescence:** cymes in panicles, terminal, typically in clusters of 2–3 cymes on lateral shoots and > 3 on main shoots, 1-sided with 2 rows of flowers and densely coiled at tip (often slowly twisting), > 30-flowered, hispid, short-hispid, and glandular-hairy; peduncle stemlike; bract subtending inflorescence = upper cauline leaf; bracts subtending forks 0–2, leaflike but unlobed, < 10 mm long, inconspicuously toothed; bractlets subtending pedicels absent; pedicel at anthesis ± 0.5 mm long increasing 2× in fruit. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, ± 8 mm across; **calyx** 5-lobed, hispid, short-hispid, and densely glandular-hairy; tube shallowly cup-shaped, poorly differentiated from receptacle, 0.2–0.4 mm long (= height of nectary) not increasing in fruit, whitish green; lobes subequal, appressed to corolla, obovate, 4–5.5 × 1–2 mm with outward-facing lobe wider to 2.6 mm, increasing to 1.5× in fruit, acute at tip, with long hairs mostly longer below midpoint and the longest hairs on exposed, wider lobe, internally short-hirsute and glandular-puberulent; **corolla** 5-lobed, broadly funnel-shaped to bell-shaped, in bud with 5 dimples on throat opposite calyx lobes but not observed at anthesis; tube + throat 6–7 mm long, constricted at base to 1.5 mm diameter, at orifice 5 mm diameter, white with purple to deep violet mark opposite each filament where dimpled, white panels 3-veined extending to each lobe, the marks oblanceolate, 2.5–3 × 0.7 mm, internally with 10 vertical appendages; appendages paired on sides of filament, fused to corolla its entire length on 1 edge, oblong, 2.2–2.5 mm long, semi-cordate at base and fused to corolla below filament base and sometimes also fused to filament base, truncate to rounded at tip, free lateral margin curving across pistil side of filament to form a collar around base of filament; lobes spreading, overlapping, broadly ovate, 2.5–3 × 3.2–3.7 mm, lavender to pale lavender (whitish), with no darker veins, short-pilose to

puberulent and glandular-pubescent on lower surface of lobes exposed in bud; **stamens** 5, fused to corolla tube 0.5–1 mm above base, with a pair of appendages forming a collared neck around base of each filament; filaments curled in bud usually becoming straight, unequal, 6.5–11 mm long, white, glabrous; anthers exerted, versatile, conspicuously dithecal, 1.2–1.5 × 1.1 mm, light violet, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen pale violet to whitish; **nectary disc** beneath narrowly constricted ovary base, ringlike and ledgelike, 1.4–1.5 mm diameter, pale green, 5-angled, with copious nectar; **pistil** 1; ovary superior, ovoid, < 1 mm long, green, densely hispid-hirsute with erect, stiff hairs to 1.3 mm long, 1-chambered with deeply intruded placentae and 4 ovules; style exerted, erect, 8.5–11 mm long, 2-branched, base ca. 3 mm long, white, the branches ascending, straight, whitish but pale lavender just below stigma, tapered to tip, short-villous and with stalked glandular hairs to midpoint; stigmas terminal, minute. **Fruit:** capsule, loculicidal, dehiscent by 2 valves, 2–3(–4)-seeded, ellipsoid or ovoid compressed side-to-side, 3–3.5 × 1.5 mm, green when immature aging dull brown, shallowly 2-lobed, finely pubescent at base, becoming hirsute toward tip. **Seed:** ovate in outline, in range 2–2.3 × 1–1.3 mm, dull brown, typically 3-sided, convex on outer side and flattened on inner sides, deeply honeycombed. Mid-April–late July.

Native. Perennial herb found occurring at many, but often widely separated, sites in range from coastal bluffs in Malibu to inland chaparral. The common local form of branching phacelia formerly was called *Phacelia ramosissima* var. *latifolia* (also referred to as var. *suffrutescens*), recognizable by having glandular hairs on canopy leaves and bulbous bases of the hispid nonglandular hairs. There also appear to be short-hirsute hairs on the older stem and calyx, and these probably are glandular hairs that lost their heads. Also occurring in range are coastal individuals lacking glandular hairs on lower stems, which earlier were identified as var. *austrolitoralis*.

B. A. Prigge & A. C. Gibson