

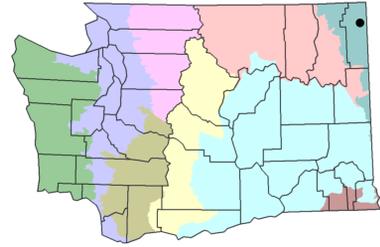
Antennaria corymbosa (E.E. Nelson)

meadow pussy-toes

Asteraceae - aster family

status: State Threatened, BLM sensitive, USFS sensitive

rank: G5 / S1



General Description: A mat-forming, stoloniferous perennial, 5-40 cm tall; colonies average 1.5-2.5 m in diameter. Leaves grayish green, woolly on both sides; basal leaves 1-nerved, narrowly oblanceolate; stem leaves few, alternate.

Floral Characteristics: Inflorescence a congested, usually round-topped cyme with several discoid heads. Plants dioecious, but male and female involucre similar, 4-5.5 mm high, green and loosely woolly at the base. Involucral bracts overlapping in several series, thin and papery, tip whitish, and with a conspicuous blackish or dark brown spot near the base. Flowers June to July; involucral bracts persist until August or September.

Fruits: Cylindrical or slightly compressed achene; pappus of many soft bristles, 3.5-4.5 mm.

Identification Tips: Similar to the common *A. rosea*, but distinguished by the conspicuous black or brown spot below the terminal whitish portion of the involucral bracts. It also has narrower leaves and thinner woolly hairs than *A. rosea*.

Range: Alberta, Sask., southwestern MT, central ID, south to UT, CO, NM, and west to eastern OR and CA. Peripheral in northeastern WA.

Habitat/Ecology: Grows in thick mats formed by horizontal stolons. Moist meadows, streamsides, and moist, open woods at middle elevations in the mountains, as well as transition zones into drier habitats. Elevation in WA: 1520 m (4980 ft). Associated vegetation includes Engelmann spruce (*Picea engelmannii*), resin birch (*Betula glandulosa*), grouse whortleberry (*Vaccinium scoparium*), tall cottongrass (*Eriophorum angustifolium* ssp. *angustifolium*), silvery sedge (*Carex canescens*), alpine timothy (*Phleum alpinum*), and elephanthead lousewort (*Pedicularis groenlandica*).

Comments: Known from 1 population in WA; threats include grazing, alteration of hydrologic regime, and herbicides. This species is also rare in Alberta, Sask., MT, and WY.

References: Flora of North America 1993+, vol. 19; Hickman 1993.



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