

***Malacothamnus arcuatus* (Greene) Greene**

ARCUATE BUSH-MALLOW

Malvaceae

Status:

CNPS Rare Plant Rank 1B.2

Federal: unlisted

State: unlisted

State Rank: S1

As *Malacothamnus fasciculatus* in TJM2

Habitat: Brushy canyons, chaparral, cismontane woodland.
15-355 meters (49-1,165 feet)

Counties:

Santa Clara,

Santa Cruz,

San Mateo

Life Form:

Dicot

perennial

evergreen shrub

Bloom period:

April - September



Toni Corelli



Alice Cummings



Alice Cummings



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[CNPS Rare and Endangered Plant Inventory Listing](#)

[Jepson Interchange](#)

[Jepson eFlora key](#)

[Calflora Taxon Report](#)

[CalPhotos Database Results](#)

[Consortium of California Herbaria Records](#)

Description of *Malacothamnus arcuatus* from Munz, 1968

Erect, woody below, 6-18 dm. tall, the stems densely white-tomentose; lf.-blades thickish, rugose, ovate to rhombic-ovate, 2-5 cm. long, not or slightly lobed, crenate-dentate, greenish above, densely canescent-tomentose beneath; petioles 5-30 cm. long; fls. in dense headlike clusters sessile in upper axils and forming interrupted spikes; bractlets linear, slightly shorter than calyx; calyx whitish or somewhat rusty, soft-tomentose, 6-8 cm. long, the lobes deltoid-ovate, ca. 3 mm. long, acute; petals rose, 12-18 mm. long; carpels tomentose above, 3 mm. long; seeds grayish 1.5 mm. long. - Brushy canyons, below 1000 ft.; Chaparral; e. slope of Coastal Range, San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz cos. April-July.

Key to our local (San Mateo and Santa Clara County) *Malacothamnus* species

*indicates Rare and/or Endangered species

1. Inflorescence spike- or panicle-like; flowers generally \pm 10 per node; leaf-like bracts many
 2. Hairs \pm yellow; branches spreading or \pm erect....*M. aboriginum** (INDIAN VALLEY BUSH-MALLOW)
 - 2' Hairs white; branches \pm erect....*M. fremontii* (FREMONT'S BUSH-MALLOW)
- 1' Inflorescence panicle-like; flowers 3-7 per node; leaf-like bracts few
 3. Hairs \pm yellow; stellate hairs with $<$ 10 rays.....*M. davidsonii** (DAVIDSON'S BUSH-MALLOW)
 - 3' Hairs white; stellate hairs with $>$ 25 rays
 4. Stellate hairs adaxially (upper surface) $<$ abaxially (lower surface); veins \pm prominent abaxially (lower surface); flowering stalks $<$ 0.5 cm; flower buds rounded; fruit segments shallowly notched.....*M. hallii** (HALL'S BUSH-MALLOW)
 - 4' Stellate hairs \pm equally dense abaxially (lower surface), adaxially (upper surface); flowering stalks $<$ 1.5 cm; flower buds acuminate; fruit: segments deeply notched.....*M. fasciculatus* (*M. arcuatus**) (CHAPARRAL MALLOW)