

Pectis imberbis
beardless chinchweed

STATUS: Positive 90-day Finding (77 FR 47352, August 8, 2012).

SPECIES DESCRIPTION: *Pectis imberbis* is an erect, many-branched, perennial herb growing 3 to 12 decimeters (dm) (12 to 47 inches (in)) from a woody caudex (stem base). The glabrous (hairless) leaves are 1 to 5 centimeters (cm) (0.4 to 2 inches (in)) in length and 1 to 2 millimeters (mm) (0.04 to 0.08 inches (in)) wide with pointed tips, becoming smaller toward the tips. The leaves have a row of narrow, oval-shaped glands on the underside surface near each margin and a single, oval-shaped gland on the upper surface. Daisy-like flower heads containing yellow ray and disk flowers are solitary or in open, flat-topped clusters at the tips of the branches. The petals are also dotted with oil glands. Flowering occurs from August to October when the plants are over 0.5 meters (m) (1.6 feet (ft)) in height.

HABITAT: *Pectis imberbis* is located at elevations ranging from 1,150 to 1,725 meters (m) (3,773 to 5,660 feet (ft)). While more typically found in tropical deciduous forests and oak woodlands at higher elevations, and grasslands at lower elevations, it has also been found on disturbed road cuts, arroyo cuts, and unstable rocky slopes, where it has little competition for sunlight.

RANGE: *Pectis imberbis* was first collected by Charles Wright in the early 1850s in Sonora, Mexico, and was described by Asa Gray in 1853. The distribution and abundance of the species in Mexico is unknown, though the species has been collected from four locations in Sonora and two locations in Chihuahua historically. In the United States, *Pectis imberbis* has been found in the Atascosa-Pajarito, Huachuca, Patagonia, and Santa Rita Mountains, and the Canelo Hills of Cochise, Pima, and Santa Cruz Counties, Arizona from 1,150 to 1,725 m (3,773 to 5,660 ft) in elevation. In recent decades, 6 U.S. populations have been relocated and all are considered small, with five having fewer than 50 individuals.

REASONS FOR DECLINE/VULNERABILITY: Each *Pectis imberbis* population faces natural and anthropogenic stressors including nonnative species invasion; high severity wildfire; small population size; drought; erosion, sedimentation, and burial; and grazing from wildlife and livestock.

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP: Occurs in Arizona on lands managed by the Coronado National Forest, Coronado National Memorial, Bureau of Land Management, and private.

NOTES: None.

Updated December 20, 2018