

ARIZONA LEATHER FLOWER

*Clematis hirsutissima*

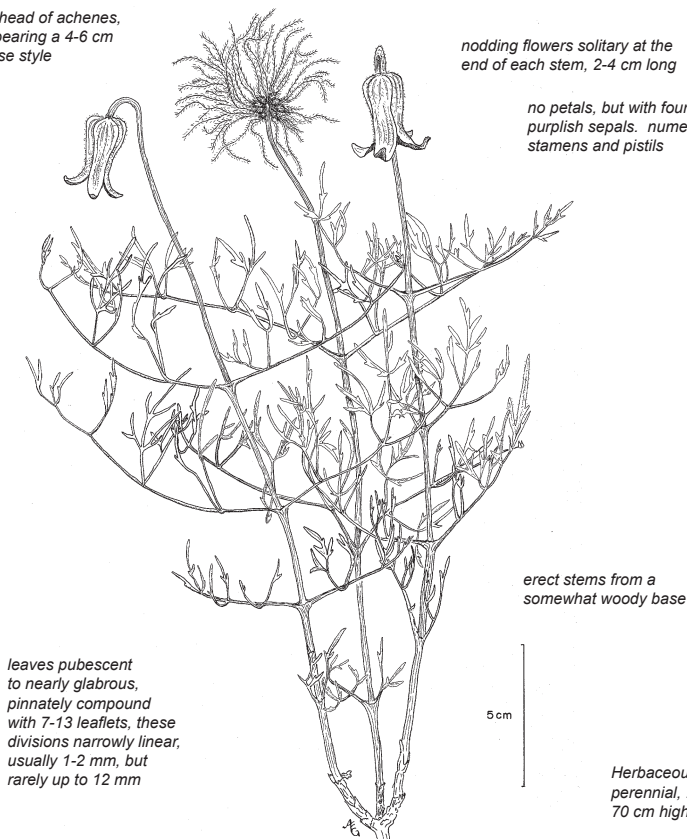
CLUSTERED LEATHER FLOWER

var. *hirsutissima*

fruit a head of achenes,  
each bearing a 4-6 cm  
plumose style

nodding flowers solitary at the  
end of each stem, 2-4 cm long

no petals, but with four, thick  
purplish sepals. numerous  
stamens and pistils



*Ranunculaceae (Buttercup Family)*

**Phenology:** flowering late April through June, fruiting July to August.

**Management Responsibility:** USFS (Coconino NF, Kaibab NF), AZ State Land Dept, Navajo Nation, NPS (Grand Canyon NP).

**Synonyms:** *Clematis hirsutissima* Pursh var. *arizonica* (Heller) Erickson

**Similar Species:** other *Clematis* are vine-forming.

**Notes:** Erickson recognized plants from the Flagstaff area as a var. *arizonica*, while some taxonomists place these plants in synonymy with the typical variety.

**References:** Erickson, 1943. Pringle, 1997.



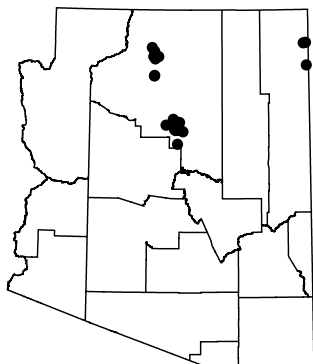
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*Clematis hirsutissima*  
var. *hirsutissima*

**Habitat:** in Arizona occurs in moist mountain meadows, prairies, and open woods and thickets usually in limestone soils of ponderosa pine and mixed conifer forests, 6,800 to 9,000 ft (2075-2745 m) elevation.



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**Range:** known from the Flagstaff vicinity along the Rio de Flag and Lower Lake Mary, upper Volunteer Canyon, the Tusayan area, and the Chuska Mountains, and western U.S.