Eucephalus vialis (=Aster vialis) Asteraceae Wayside aster

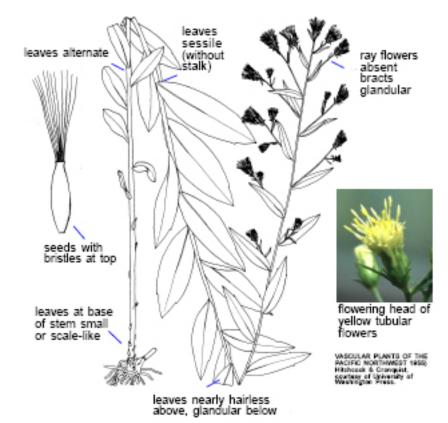


Gerald D. Carr









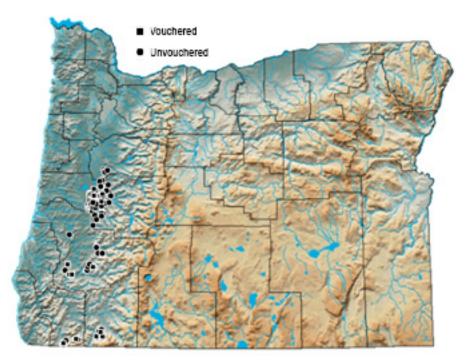
Perennial. Stem stout at base or with creeping rhizomes and scattered stems, 60-120 cm tall. Lowermost leaves small and scale-like, others similar in size, but reduced toward the inflorescence, elliptic or broadly lanceolate, sessile, entire or with a few irregular sharp teeth, midstem leaves 3.5-9 cm long, 1.5-3 cm wide, glabrous or sparsely hairy above, glandular beneath. Inflorescence leafy-bracteate, with several or many flower heads, turbinate, the disk 1-1.5 cm wide. Involucre 8-10 mm high, the bracts overlapping, sharp-pointed, with a strong midvein and somewhat keeled, greenish above. Disc florets tubular, yellow. Ray florets wanting; pappus of bristles, commonly with a few short outer ones.

Lookalikes	differs from featured plant by
Sericocarpus rigidus	has short ray flowers, grows in valley bottom
Eucephalus tomentellus	(rigid white topped aster) wetlands stems and phyllaries not glandular, only in southern (smooth rayless aster) Oregon and California, flowering heads generally



Eucephalus vialis Bradshaw

(= Aster vialis (Bradshaw) S.F. Blake) Wayside aster PLANTS symbol: ASVI4 *August 2019 status* Oregon:LT; ORBIC: List 1



Distribution: West of the Cascades Mountains, mostly in the Willamette and Umpqua valleys; northern California.

Habitat: Gaps and edges of dry open Douglas fir forests; clearcuts. Generally on shallow, rocky soils on south-facing slopes.

Elevation: 100-1700 m

Best survey time (in flower or fruit): late June-September

Associated species:

Pseudotsuga menziesii (Douglas fir) Arbutus menziesii (madrone) Quercus garryana (Oregon white oak) Quercus kelloggii (California black oak) Chrysolepis chrysophylla (golden chinquapin) Toxicodendron diversilobum (poison oak)







