

Calochortus ambiguus

Doubting Mariposa Lily Arizona Mariposa

- Family: Liliaceae
Genus: Calochortus
Species: Ambiguus
Height: 1' to 2'
Blooms: April to August (higher elevations)
Elevation: 3,000' to 8,000'
Habitat: Rocky, open dry slopes, chaparral, and open pine forests.
Flowers: Range from white to pink to bluish-gray. Distinguishing features are dull purple at the base of the petals, yellow gland-tipped hairs near the gland, and prominent pink stamen tips.
- Leaves: Linear, typically three, up to 1' long from base, usually withered by flowering time. Upper leaves shorter, if any.
- Range: Arizona (Navajo County to eastern Mohave County, south to Cochise, Santa Cruz, and Pima Counties), southwestern New Mexico, southeastern Utah. Down to the upper margins of the Sonoran Desert.
- Notes: Photos taken in Mazatzal Wilderness Area in Apr 2004. This species is easily confused with *C. flexuosus*, which blooms at the same time and within the same general area but which has a distinctive yellow band above the gland and less prominent, white stamen tips.



References

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3. Rickett, H.W., *Wild Flowers of the United States, vol. 4: The Southwestern States*, McGraw-Hill, 1966, p. 26.
4. Shreve, F. and I.L. Wiggins, *Vegetation and Flora of the Sonoran Desert*, Stanford University Press, 1964, p. 350.
5. Spellengerg, R., *Sonoran Desert Wildflowers*, Globe Pequot Press, 2003, p. 57.
6. Welsh, Stanley L., N.D. Atwood, S. Goodrich, and L.C. Higgins (eds), *A Utah Flora*, Brigham Young University, 1987, p. 900.