

Chorizanthe brevicornu

Brittle Spineflower

- Family: Polygonaceae
Genus: Chorizanthe
Species: brevicornu
Height: 2-12"
Blooms: March to June
Elevation: Below 2,500'
Habitat: Gravely and stony deserts.
Flowers: Barely noticeable, with five white sepals, concealed in a 1/8" long narrowly elongated cylindrical green tube topped by six bristles.
Leaves: Linear or inversely lancolate near or at the base, 1/2" to 1 1/2" long reduced to opposite bracts upward.
Range: Lower Sonoran Zone, northern Baja California, southern California to southern Utah and Arizona. Creosote, Joshua Tree, blackbrush, catclaw, bursage, and other warm and salt desert communities.
Notes: Common plant, conspicuous in otherwise barren desert pavement. Photos taken west of Superior, AZ in May 2003.



References

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3. Niehaus, T.T., C.L. Ripper, and V. Savage, *A Field Guide to Southwestern and Texas Wildflowers*, Houghton Mifflin, 1984, p. 40.
4. Rickett, H.W., *Wild Flowers of the United States, vol. 4: The Southwestern States*, McGraw-Hill, 1966, p. 85.
5. Shreve, F. and I.L. Wiggins, *Vegetation and Flora of the Sonoran Desert*, Stanford University Press, 1964, p. 414.
6. Spellenberg, R., *Sonoran Desert Wildflowers*, Globe Pequot Press, 2003, p. 145.
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