

Mojave Milkweed

Asclepias nyctaginifolia A. Gray

Four-o'clock Milkweed

A low desert milkweed with broad soft leaves like a four-o'clock plant and nodding clusters of green-cream flowers, scattered across sandy flats and washes in the Mojave and northern Sonoran deserts.



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Key facts

Field	Value	Field	Value
Status	Native	Height	6in-1.5ft
Flowers	green, cream	Bloom	April to June
Light	Full sun	Soil	Dry
USDA zones	7-10	Leaves	opposite, ovate
Sap	Milky latex	Roots	Deep taproot, resents transplanting
Stratification	30 days cold-moist	States	4

How to identify it

- Broad, soft, wavy-margined leaves close to the ground.
- Nodding clusters of pale green flowers on short stalks.
- Sandy desert flats, washes and roadside margins.

Ecology

A spring desert host used during northward monarch and queen movement.

Growing

Not in cultivation.

Cautions

Standard milkweed cautions.

Where it grows

Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah

More photographs



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Patrick Alexander from Las Cruces, NM. CC0. Wi



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References

- Plants of the World Online: <https://powo.science.kew.org/taxon/urn:lsid:ipni.org:names:94494-1>
- GBIF: <https://www.gbif.org/species/3170320>
- iNaturalist: <https://www.inaturalist.org/taxa/62294>
- BONAP county map: <https://bonap.net/MapGallery/County/Asclepias%20nyctaginifolia.png>

<https://milkweedusa.com/species/mojave-milkweed/>