

Milo Baker's Lupine (*Lupinus milo-bakeri*)

Status -- Federal: Category 2 ; California: Candidate



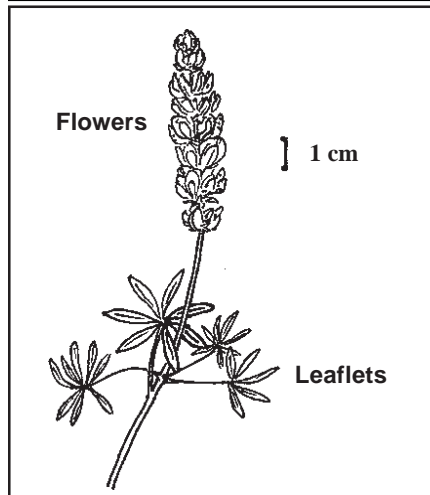
Photo: Jack Booth, CDFG

Milo Baker's lupine is an herbaceous annual plant of the Pea family (Fabacea) found along some roadsides of Mendocino and Colusa Counties (see details on back). It measures approximately 3-5 ft. in height. Its flowers go from blue to pale yellow with age. Flowering occurs from June through August. Milo Baker's lupine is commonly associated with weedy species such as Blackberry (*Rubus sp.*), Canary grass (*Phalaris sp.*), Puncture vine (*Tribulus terrestris*), and Yellow Star thistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*)

California Department of Pesticide Regulation
Endangered Species Program
<https://www.cdpr.ca.gov>



Milo Baker's Lupine



Distribution

This plant has been found primarily along roadsides in wet ditches and streams in Round Valley in the town of Covelo, Mendocino County. A new occurrence was discovered along Hwy 101 Southwest of Covelo and one other was found in Bear Valley in Colusa County. The occurrences of Milo Baker's lupine along roads may not represent the original habitat for this species, however, its natural habitat is not well known.

Description

As stated before, Milo Baker's lupine is an herbaceous annual plant. Its leaflets and stems are covered with fine "hair". The leaves are palmate, and composed of 6 to 9 leaflets radiating from a central point. Flowers mature from the bottom of the plant to the top, forming hairy pods containing several round seeds.

Management

Since the remaining occurrences of this species are found along roadsides where the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) performs roadside maintenance, the most critical questions that need answers are those regarding this plant's response to herbicides. More study is needed to see if and when the plant can be sprayed and/or mowed.

Caltrans and the Department of Fish and Game are developing strategies that allow certain types of road maintenance and guarantee viable, healthy occurrences of Milo Baker's lupine