



Project BudBurst

A National Phenology Network Field Campaign for Citizen Scientists



www.budburst.org

Common Name: Darkthroat shooting star, Western shooting star, Southern shootingstar, dark-throat shooting star, prairie shooting star

Scientific Name: *Dodecatheon pulchellum*

Plant Family: Primulaceae

Identifying Characteristics:

Size: Perennial herb, hairless, with fleshy-fibrous roots; flowering stems are 5 to 40 cm (2 to 16 in) in height.

Leaves: Leaves occur in a rosette at the base of the flowering stalk; leaves are oval to oblong, narrowing towards the petiole that attaches them to the rosette. Leaves are 4 to 25 cm (1.5 to 10 in) long.

Flowers: Floral parts are in groups of five, with the flower lobes 9 to 14 mm long, magenta to light purple. The anthers are arranged in a tube that is 1.5 to 3.5 mm long, and yellow, orange, dark maroon to black in color. The anthers themselves are 3 to 5.5 mm long, and yellowish to maroon to black. The flower develops into a 5-valved fruit, 5 to 15 mm long, smooth to hairy, with each valve splitting open to release the tiny black seeds.

Habitat: Wet meadows and slopes from 1200 to 2200 m (4000 to 7200 ft) in elevation.

Bloom time: April to May

Information source:

The Jepson Manual. 1993. University of California Press; The Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture website (www.biology.burke.washington.edu/herbarium), Seattle, Washington.



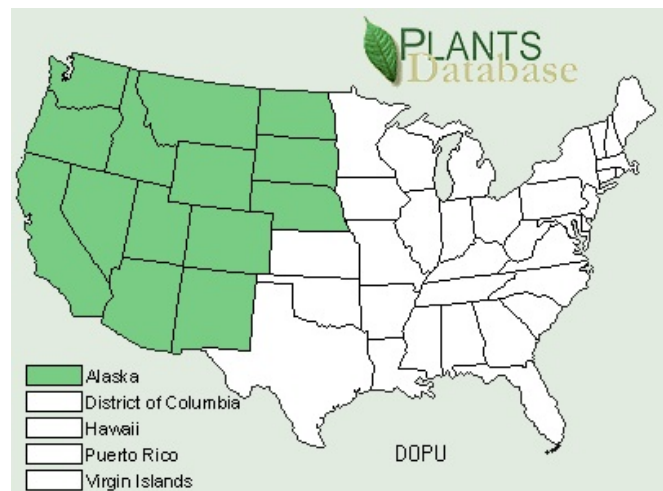
Photograph by Gary A. Monroe @ USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database



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Phenological observation:
First Flower, Seed or Fruit Dispersal

Distribution Area:



Map courtesy of USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database (plants.usda.gov)