

SAURURACEAE LIZARD'S-TAIL FAMILY

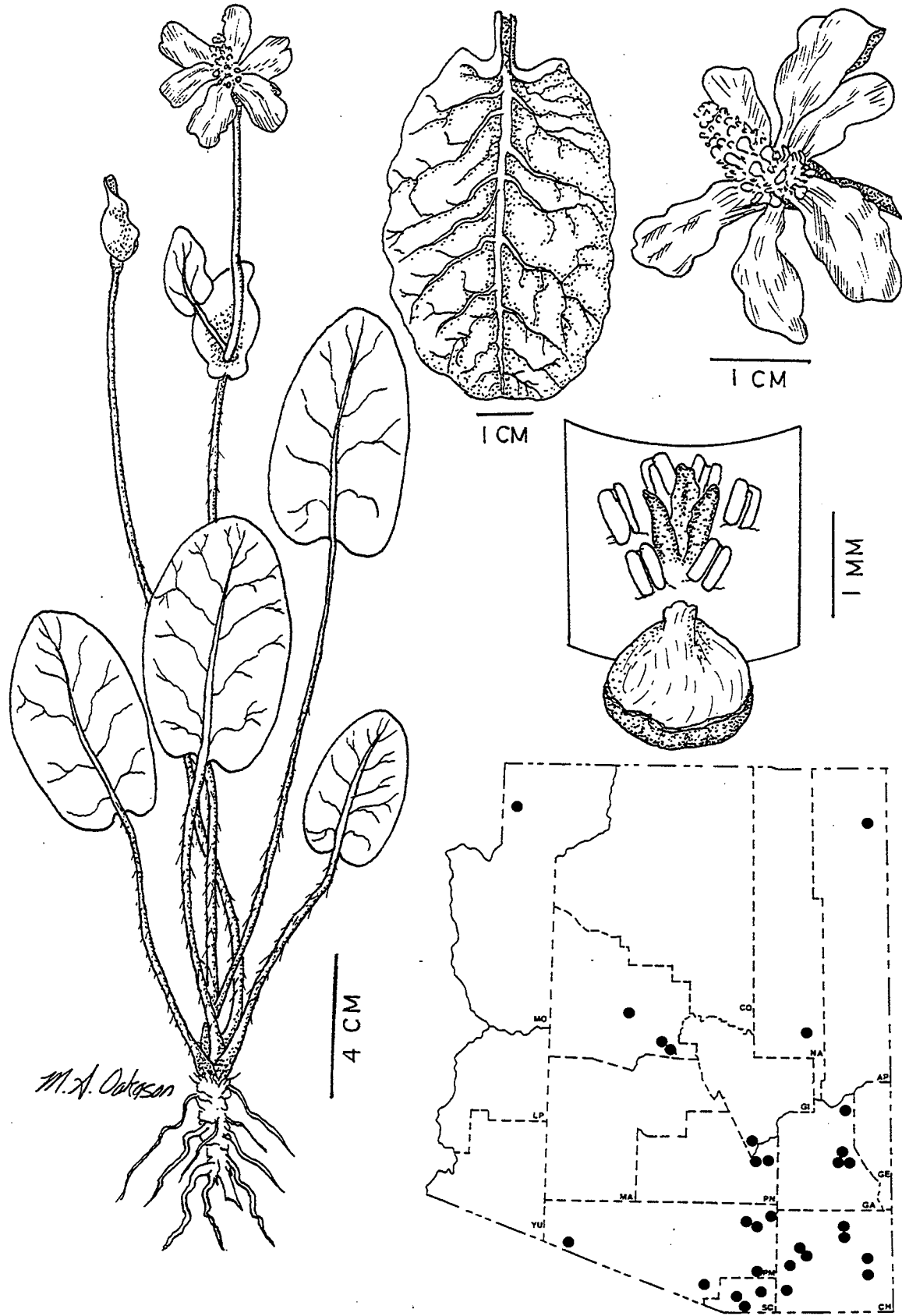
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Perennial, rhizomatous or stoloniferous, aromatic herbs of wet places. LEAVES simple, alternate, basal or cauline, with stipules adnate to the petiole. INFLORESCENCES compact conic spikes subtended by involucral bracts, or lax spike-like racemes. FLOWERS perfect, each subtended by a bract; perianth absent; stamens 3-8; pistil 3-7-carpelled, the ovary superior or inferior. FRUITS capsules. SEEDS 1-many. 5 genera, 7 spp., N. Amer., C. Amer., and e Asia.

Anemopsis Hook. & Arn. Yerba Mansa

Herbs glabrous or pubescent, to 30 cm tall. LEAVES basal and cauline; basal leaves petioled, the blades 5-15 cm long, elliptic-oblong with a truncate or cordate base, the margins entire; cauline leaves sessile, and clasping, 1-3 small, petioled leaves in the axils. INFLORESCENCES terminal compact conic spikes subtended by showy white or reddish petaloid bracts. FLOWERS 75-150, each subtended by a white, obovate bract with a narrow claw; stamens 6-8; pistil 3(-4)-carpelled, the ovary inferior, the styles and stigmas distinct. SEEDS 6-10. --1 sp. w U.S. (Greek: *Anemone* + *opsis* = like).

Anemopsis californica Hook. & Arn. (of California). [*A. californica* var. *subglabra* Kelso]. $2n=22$. Forms large colonies in wet areas: Apache, Cochise, Graham, Maricopa, Mohave, Navajo, Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz, Yavapai cos.; 300-1750 m (1000-5800 ft); Apr-Oct; CA, CO, KS, NM, NV, OK, OR, TX, UT; Baja C., Chih., Coah, Son., Mex.



Saururaceae Fig. 1. *Anemopsis californica*. A, habit; B, leaf; C, inflorescence; D, flower; E, distribution. Illustrations by M. A. Oakason.