

GARRYACEAE SILK TASSEL FAMILY

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Dioecious shrubs or small trees, ours to 3m tall. LEAVES opposite, evergreen, exstipulate, ours elliptic to ovate-elliptic; petioles of a pair connate; blades leathery, the margins entire to papillate-denticulate, sometimes more or less undulate. INFLORESCENCES catkins or catkin-like racemes, unbranched (or branched at base), usually pendulous from tips of branches. FLOWERS small and reduced, 1-3 in axils of bracts, the bracts opposite, 4-ranked, basally fused; staminate flowers pedicellate, the perianth segments 4, apically connate, the stamens 4, distinct, alternating with perianth segments, the anthers 2-celled; pistillate flowers sessile to subsessile, the perianth absent or vestigial, the ovary inferior, 1-locular, the styles 2, persistent. FRUIT berry-like, globose, dark blue-black to whitish gray at maturity, becoming brittle when dry. SEEDS usually 2, subellipsoid, dark.—1 genus, 14 species in w and sw N. Amer., Mex., C. Amer., Greater Antilles. Dahling, G.V. 1978. *Contr. Gray Herbarium* 209:3-104; Daniel, T.F. 1993 Garryaceae. Pp. 664-666 in J. C. Hickman (ed.), *The Jepson Manual: Higher Plants of California* University of California Press, Berkeley. The extensive intergradation commonly found among taxa in CA is not evident in AZ.

Garrya Dougl. ex Lindl. Silk Tassel

Characters of the family.—(for *N. Garry*). 14 spp.; 2 spp. in AZ.

1. Leaves generally densely pubescent below, the margins entire; inflorescences dense (rachis not or barely visible), the bracts near midpoint of pistillate inflorescences connate 30–80% of their length, forming conspicuous cupules; flowers 3 per bract, the styles 2.5-5 mm long; fruits pubescent, sometimes glabrescent with age *G. flavescens*
- 1' Leaves glabrous to sparsely pubescent below, the margins papillate-denticulate; inflorescences loose (rachis clearly visible), the bracts near midpoint of pistillate inflorescences connate 20% of their length, forming inconspicuous cupules; flowers 1 per bract, the styles 1-2 mm long; fruits glabrous to sparsely pubescent *G. wrightii*

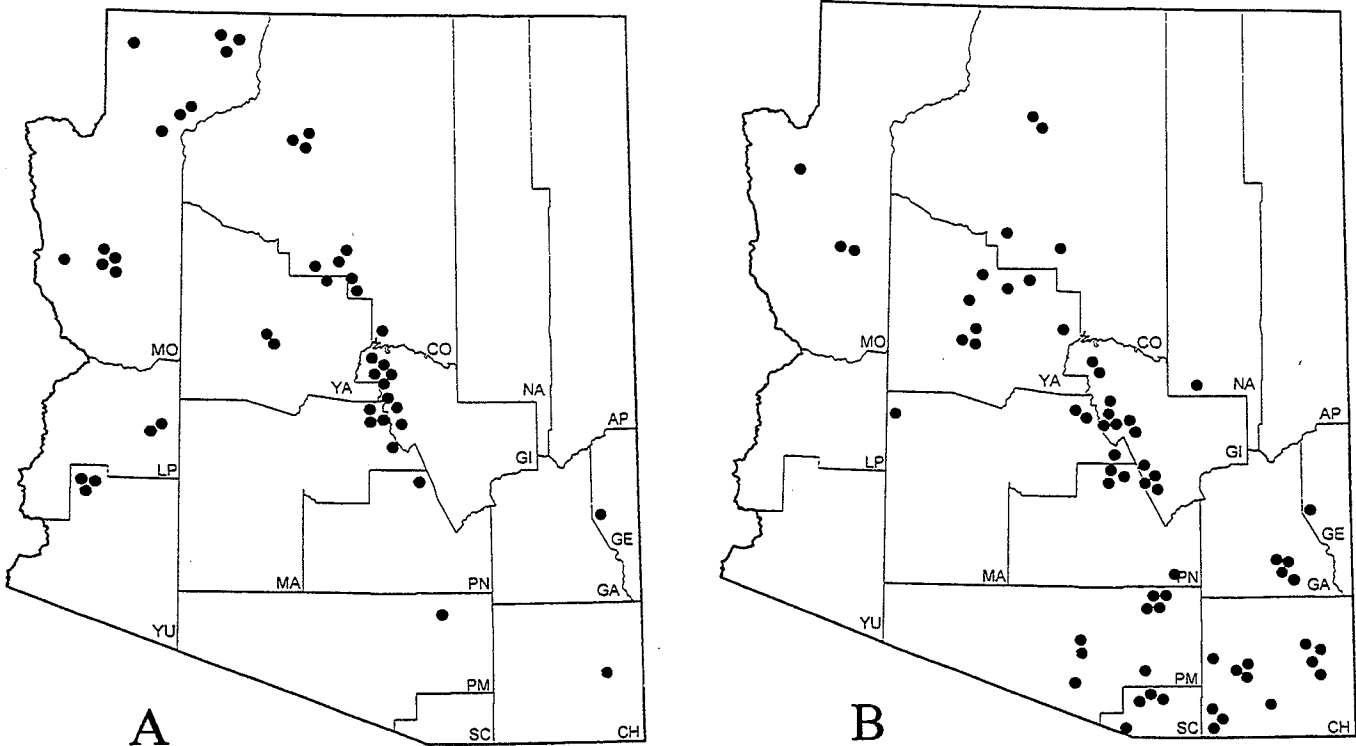
Garrya flavescens S. Wats. (yellowish). Yellow-leaf Silk Tassel. —Shrubs or small trees. LEAVES 3-10 cm long, 1.5-6.2 cm wide, often yellowish, glabrous to evenly pubescent with appressed trichomes above, sparsely to densely pubescent below, the margin entire. INFLORESCENCES 2.5-6 cm long, dense, the rachis not or barely visible, the bracts near midpoint forming conspicuous cupules: those of staminate flowers broadly triangular to lance linear, 3-9 mm long, connate 50-75% of their length; bracts of pistillate flowers broadly triangular, lanceolate, or lanceolate to oblanceolate, 2.5-12 mm long, those near midpoint of inflorescence connate, 30-80% of their length; flowers 3 per bract. STAMINATE FLOWERS: perianth segments linear to elliptic; anthers 1.3-2.5 mm long. PISTILLATE FLOWERS: styles 2.5-5 mm long. FRUITS 7-9 mm diameter, densely pubescent, sometimes glabrescent with age.

—Desert scrub, chaparral, pine-oak forest: all but Apache, Graham, Navajo cos.; 800-2500 m (2700- 8200 ft); Mar-Jun; CA, NV, UT; Baja C, Mex.

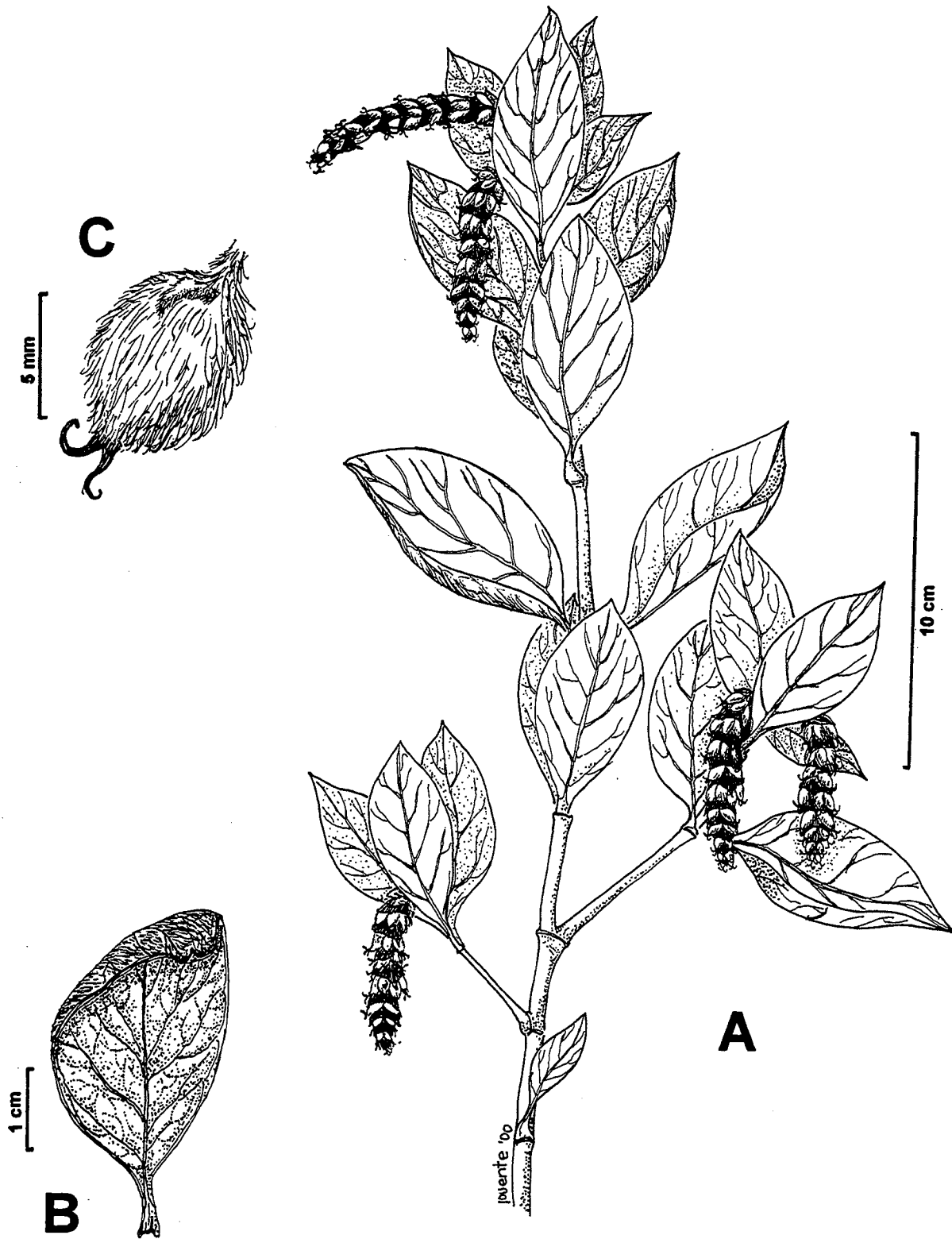
***Garrya wrightii* Torr. (for C. Wright). Wright's Silk Tassel.** —Shrubs. LEAVES 2-6.5 cm long, 0.7-2.7(-3.6) cm wide, rarely yellowish, glabrous above, glabrous to sparsely pubescent with appressed trichomes below, the margin irregularly papillate-denticulate. INFLORESCENCES 3-4.5(-7) cm long, loose, the rachis clearly visible; bracts near midpoint not forming conspicuous cupules, those of staminate flowers triangular to to oblanceolate, 2.5-5 mm long, those near midpoint connate 25-60% their length; bracts of pistillate flowers triangular-lanceolate to oblanceolate, 2.5-14 mm long, those near midpoint of inflorescence connate, 20% their length; flowers 1 per bract. STAMINATE FLOWERS: anthers 1-2 mm long. PISTILLATE FLOWERS: styles 1-2 mm long. FRUITS 6-9 mm diam., glabrous or sparsely pubescent. —Desert scrub, chaparral, oak woodland, and pine-oak forest: all but Apache, La Paz, Yuma cos.; 1200-2100 m (3900-6900 ft); Mar-Aug; NM, TX; Chih., Coah., Dgo., Son., Mex.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

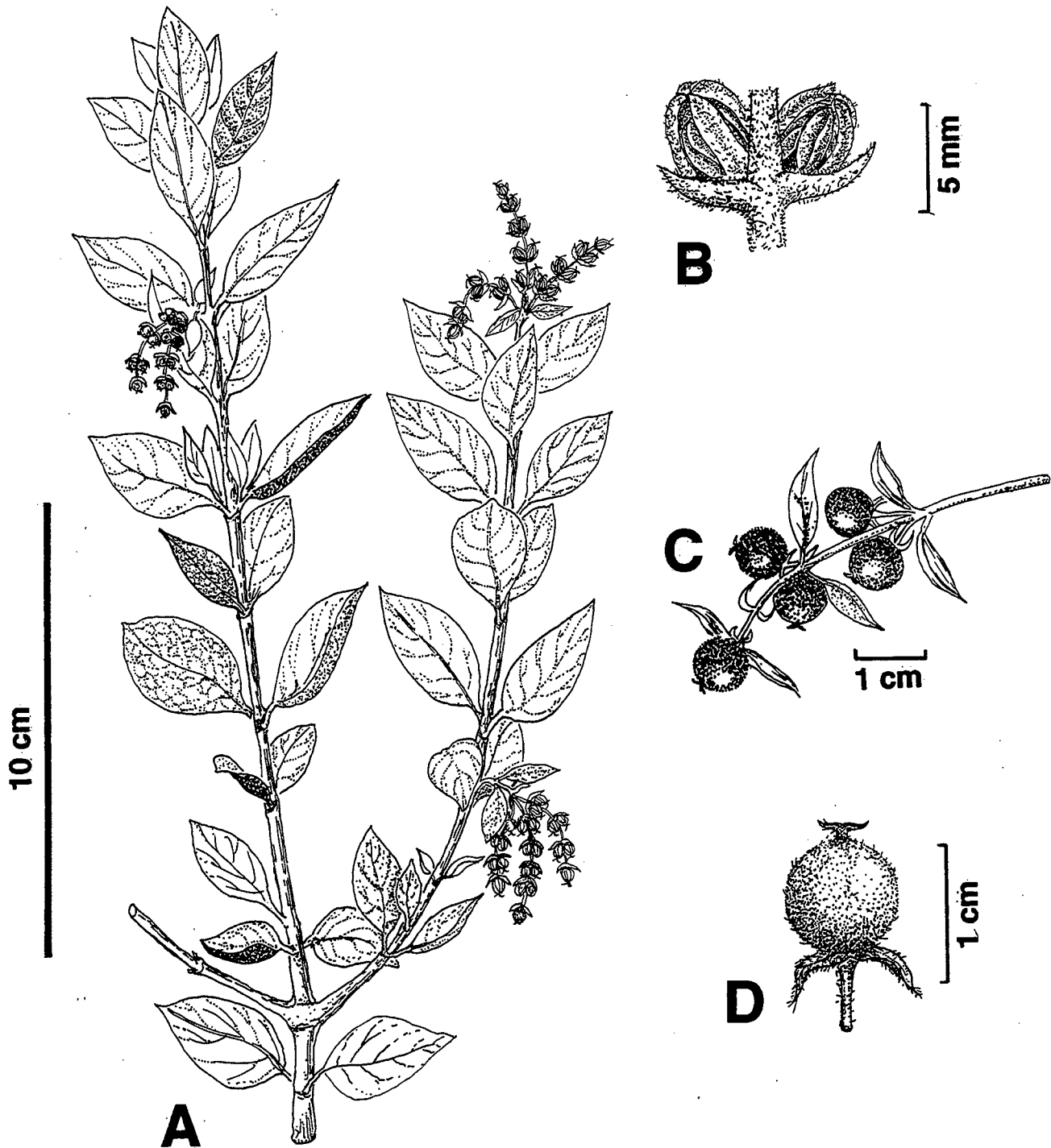
The authors thank the curators of the following herbaria for kindly allowing the use of their specimens: ARIZ, ASU, ASC, CAS and DES.



Garryaceae Fig. 1. Garryaceae. Distribution of: A, *Garrya flavescens*; B, *Garrya wrightii*.



Garryaceae Fig. 2. A, *Garrya flavescens* (Lehto 1785, ASU). A, Habit; B, leaf with pubescent abaxial surface; C, pubescent fruit.



Garryaceae Fig 3. *Garrya wrightii*. A, habit (Puente 1876, ASU); B, staminate flowers (Puente 1829, ASU); C, branch with fruits and D, mature fruit (Puente 1854, ASU).