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of Yellow
paperflower

PHENOLOGY OF YELLOW PAPERFLOWER IN THE TUCSON AREA

Craig C. Schrader and Tien Wei Yang (University of Arizona)

Phenology of a sample population of Psilostrophe cooperi (Gray) Greene was studied at Saguaro National Monument East. Weekly and biweekly observations made since late summer, 1974 were recorded under (1) leaf initiation, (2) stem elongation, (3) flower buds, (4) flowering, (5) maturing fruits, and (6) mature fruits. When this information is analyzed against the temperature and precipitation records at the SNME Weather Station and compared with additional observations on the same species in other parts of the Tucson Basin, some generalizations on the phenology of this extremely common and widespread low perennial shrub can be made. Leaf initiation and stem elongation persist throughout most of the year. Flower buds and flowering appear with rising temperature in the spring and gradually disappear with freezing temperature in the winter. Maturing and mature fruits are found on the plant most of the year. Moisture, whenever available, is conducive to a fuller and more extended expression of each of the phenophases.

Time required for presentation:

15 minutes

Projection Equipment Needed:

for 2 X 2 slides

Saguaro Nat'l Park
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