

Two species of *Dudleya* were named in recent years.

By Stephen McCabe, January 9, 2017. Copyright by S. McCabe.

On December 15, 2016 a new species was named in the journal *Madroño*. I named the species with my co-authors, Mark Doderer and Michael Simpson. We named the species after Jimi Hendrix and the story went viral. It was all over the internet and across the world. The official species name, including authors, is *Dudleya hendrixii* S. McCabe & Doderer. It is a summer deciduous species with waxy leaves. There are only a few leaves and they are pointed at the tips and fairly upright. It survives the summer underground as a corm-like structure. It is only found on a Mesa near San Quintin, Baja California, Mexico about 150 miles south of San Diego.



Dudleya hendrixii. Photo copyright by Stephen McCabe.

Here is the reference to the article: McCabe, Stephen Ward, Mark W. Doderer, and Michael G. Simpson. 2016. *Dudleya hendrixii*, a new, rare species from Colonet Mesa, Baja California. *Madroño*, Vol 63(4). Pp. 359-365.

<http://www.usnews.com/news/offbeat/articles/2016-12-15/rare-plant-named-after-rock-guitarist-jimi-hendrix>

Another relatively new species was named previously by Doderer and Simpson. It is called *Dudleya crassifolia* Doderer & M.G. Simpson. It was described in 2012, also in *Madroño*. The species is unusual in its group in that the base of the leaves are covered partly by soil. It is summer dormant and often does not have waxy leaves. The leaf bases are usually conspicuous and persistent on the stem. The flowers of *D. crassifolia*, *D. hendrixii*, *D. blochmaniae*, and *D. attenuata* subsp. *orcuttii* are fairly similar to each other, though *D. attenuata* subsp. *orcuttii* is the only one of the four that is evergreen with obvious above ground stems. In habitat and cultivation *Dudleya blochmaniae* from this area starts to bloom first, then *D. crassifolia*, and then last, *D. hendrixii*. The timing of the flowering may help keep the similar species separate from each other.

After a discovery, it takes some time to build up the numbers in cultivation. Neither species will be available to gardeners for a while. They almost all gardens they will be best grown in small pots, not out in the ground.



Dudleya crassifolia. Photo copyright by Stephen McCabe.

Here is the reference to their article:

Madroño 59(4): 223. 2012 [19 Dec 2012] *Dudleya crassifolia* (Crassulaceae), a new species from Northern Baja California, Mexico.