

***Astragalus aequalis*** Clokey**CLOKEY MILKVETCH**

**FAMILY:** *Fabaceae*, the legume family.

**STATUS:** **Heritage Program SENSITIVE LIST, ranks: G2 S2**

**USFWS/ESA:** species of concern. **STATE OF NEVADA:** none. **BLM:** Special Status Species. **USFS:** Humboldt-Toiyabe NF Sensitive Species. **NNPS:** watch list.

**POPULATION CENSUS:** **23 occurrences mapped** at 1.0 km (0.6 mi) separation, **OR 26 occurrences mapped** at 0.16 km (0.1 mi) separation; total estimated **individuals 2621+**, total estimated **area 55.1+ ha (136+ ac)**. **TREND:** unknown.

**IMPACTS AND MAJOR THREATS:** Human impact is great in certain areas.

**INVENTORY EFFORT:** Some targeted surveys have been conducted, but substantial potential habitat likely remains unexamined. Most recent entered survey 1994, average year of last survey 1982.

**Years since last entered survey** (percent of mapped records at various survey ages): **6-10 yrs:** 61.5%; **11-20 yrs:** 3.8%; **21-30 yrs:** 19.2%; **31-50 yrs:** 3.8%; **51+ yrs or unknown:** 11.5%.

**LAND MANAGEMENT** in decreasing predominance: Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, U. S. Bureau of Land Management, designated wilderness, private lands.

**RANGE:** Clark County, Nevada. Endemic to the Spring Mountains. Maximum **range dimension 27.4 km (17.0 mi)** excluding most disjunct record.

**ELEVATIONS RECORDED:** 5970-8400 feet (1820-2560 meters).

**HABITAT:** Calcareous gravelly flats, hillsides, and open ridges, often sheltering under sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*), pines (*Pinus monophylla* or *P. ponderosa*), or Gambel oak (*Quercus gambelii*). Other common associates include Utah juniper (*Juniperus osteosperma*) and curl-leaf mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus ledifolius* var. *intermontanus*).

**PHENOLOGY:** flowering late-spring. Range of most frequent **survey months:** May-August.

**LIFE-FORM AND HABIT:** perennial herb from a buried root crown.

**DESCRIPTION:** A perennial herb, up to 7 dm tall, with small yellow flowers blooming in May and June, followed by inflated, mottled fruiting pods.

**PHOTOGRAPHS:** Nachlinger (1994), Weixelman and Atwood (1990); Nevada Natural Heritage Program slide collection (1986-present) and files.

**ILLUSTRATIONS:** Mozingo and Williams (1980), Weixelman and Atwood (1990).

**OTHER GENERAL REFERENCES** (listed separately): Barneby (1964), Beatley (1976), Beatley (1977), Beatley (1977), Clokey (1951), Niles et al. (1998).

**SPECIFIC REFERENCES:**

Clokey, I. W. 1942. Notes on the flora of the Charleston Mountains, Clark County, Nevada. IV. *Astragalus*. *Madroño* 6: 211-222.

Crosby, V. 1978. Status report for *Astragalus aequalis*. Portland, Oregon: U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

WESTEC Services, Inc. 1980. Field research of rare plants in Las Vegas ES area, Clark County, Las Vegas, Nevada. Las Vegas: Bureau of Land Management.

Woodbury, K. 1980. Status report for *Astragalus aequalis*. Portland, Oregon: U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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