

NOTEWORTHY COLLECTION

MEXICO

ANEMONE TUBEROSA Rydb. (RANUNCULACEAE). — Baja California, Municipio of Ensenada, Ejido Nativos del Valle heading W to Santo Tomas, 31.42561°N, 116.34858°W (WGS 84), 434 m/1428 ft, 26 March 2010, *Sula Vanderplank, Sean Lahmeyer, Ben Wilder and Karen Zimmerman* 100326-29 (RSA), Less than 100 plants observed growing with *Zigadenus* sp. on N-facing side of a steep limestone outcrop. Most plants in full flower.

Previous knowledge. The general habitat of this species is given by Dutton et al. (1997), in the Flora of North America, as from rocky slopes and stream sides 800-2500 m. It is known from desert regions of the southwestern USA (CA, NM, NV, TX, UT) and NW Mexico (Baja California, Sonora), and has been well documented within the Sonoran and Mojave deserts: Wiggins (1980) reports it from the western edge of the Colorado Desert and the eastern Mojave Desert; Wilken (1993) gives the range in California as eastern Desert Mountains; 900 – 1900 m; Munz (1974) reports elevations of 3000-5,000 ft (914-1520 m), in Joshua Tree Woodland and Pinyon-Juniper Woodland, western edge of the Colorado Desert, eastern Mojave Desert. The westernmost known collections for this taxon in California are from the southern Cuyamaca Mtns., near the southwestern end of Poser Mtn, March 19 1995, *Jeri Hirshberg* 253 (RSA) 60 km from the Pacific coast; and the Laguna Mountains, below Desert View, 06 April 1939, *A. J. Stover* 245 (SD), 80 km from the Pacific coast (CCH 2011). In Arizona, Kearney and Pebbles (1951) report elevations of 2,500-5000 ft (760-1520 m). In Mexico, the two Baja California collections closest to the Pacific Ocean are both 50 km inland (30-45 km from the Gulf of

California to the east) in the central desert, close to the narrowest part of the peninsula: summit of volcanic hill at top of Jaraguay Grade, 24 Feb 1973, *Reid Moran 20248* (SD), elev. 875 m, (the lowest documented elevation for this species in the state); Sierra San Borja, summit of Cerro la Chona, 19 Mar 1966, *Reid Moran 12782* (SD), 1450 m (San Diego Natural History Museum 2011). There are a small number of California specimens from ~400 m elev., all from a small area within the Whipple Mountains, on the border with Arizona (CCH).

Significance. First collection of this species west of the peninsular ranges and inside the California Floristic Province. This collection represents a range extension of ca. 70 km west from the peninsular ranges, and is the most coastal collection documented to date, being just 15 km (9 mi) from the Pacific Ocean. The elevation is the lowest recorded in Baja California, and is near the lowest elevation recorded for the species anywhere. Further investigation of the foothills surrounding this site may help determine if this small population is indeed isolated from the core range, perhaps as a result of the unusual habitat provided by the limestone outcrop.

--SULA VANDERPLANK , Department of Botany & Plant Sciences, University of California, Riverside, CA, 92507; SEAN LAHMEYER, The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA 91108.

sula.vanderplank@gmail.com.

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