Acmispon wrangelianus (Fisch. & C. A. Meyer) D. D. Sokoloff, CHILE LOTUS. Annual, taprooted, 1–several-stemmed at base, prostrate to decumbent, typically < 15 cm tall; shoots in range soft-pubescent with upward-arching hairs. **Stems:** cylindric, to 1 mm diameter, often red. **Leaves:** helically alternate, odd-1-pinnately compound with (3–)4–5(–6) alternate leaflets unequally positioned along edges of rachis, short-petiolate without pulvinus, with stipules; stipules 2, attached at petiole base, obscure, minute conic dots, glandular and reddish, easily detached; petiole < 0.5 mm long, pubescent; rachis compressed top-to-bottom and ± flat on upper side, 3–5 × 0.8–1.2 mm, upper surface short-pilose; petiolules < 0.5 mm long, colorless, short-hairy; blades of leaflets unequal, obovate to oblanceolate or elliptic, in range 3–7 × 2.2–4(–6) mm, the terminal leaflet the largest, the basal leaflet the smallest and somewhat asymmetric, flat and never folded along midrib, ± fleshy, broadly tapered to rounded at base, entire, obtuse to rounded at tip, with only midrib visible, dull green, having cells strongly convex, hairs evenly distributed. **Inflorescence:** 1(–2)-flowered umbel, axillary, also with emerging axillary lateral shoot, with short peduncle (pedicel) lacking bract and bractlets, puberulent; peduncle < 1 mm long increasing slightly in fruit, soft-hairy. **Flower:** bisexual, bilateral, pealike (papilionaceous), ± 2 mm across, in range 4.5–5 mm long; **nectary chamber** around nectar-producing receptacle beneath ovary, cup-shaped, typically without nectar; **calyx** 5-lobed (toothed), in range 2.5–3.5 mm long, soft-hairy; tube slightly compressed bell-shaped, not ribbed on nectary chamber; lobes ≤ tube, acuminate, often red; **petals** 5, in range ± 4 mm long, clawed, claws ± 1.5 mm long, whitish; banner claw wedge-shaped, fleshy, limb firmly appressed to wings, roundish with lobed base, light yellow to bright yellow approaching tip, without reddish veins; wings 2, claws slender, limbs oblong, ± 2.5 mm long, lobed on upper edge above claw, bluntly rounded at tip, loosely linked to keel by a fold on face of limb; keel of 2 petals with limbs fused fully on keel side and 2/3 from near claw to tip, wings slightly < keel, keel light yellow but bright yellow approaching tip, with fold on upper edge; **stamens** 10, diadelphous (9 filaments fused and 1 free); filament sheet to above midpoint, 4 mm long, sheet curved slightly, pale green, glabrous; anthers dithecal, 0.1–0.2 mm long, whitish, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen whitish, sticky; **pistil** 1, ± 4.5 mm long; ovary superior, oblong with tapered base, 2.5–3 mm long, green but silvery with dense, ascending short hairs, 1-chambered with 6–7 ovules attached to upper side; style strongly arched, ± 1.5 mm long, glabrous, pale green to whitish; stigma at level of anthers, minute, lateral, lacking short hairs. **Fruit**: pod (legume), dehiscent by 2 valves, 5–6-seeded, spreading, straight to slightly curved and often with hooked beak, oblong-cylindric, in range 8–12.5 × 2 mm, not strongly constricted between seeds, strigose-puberulent. **Seed:** trapezoid, 3–3.5 × 1.8–2.2 mm, dark olive green, smooth; hilum tiny and asymmetric on 1 side of indentation. Mid-March–early May.

Native. Annual occasionally found with other native annuals in openings of chaparral and coastal sage scrub in SMM and SH, especially on thin soils. *Acmispon wrangelianus*, at one time in range misinterpreted as *L. subpinnatus*, is a species typically with a single axillary flower. Actually that flower is an "umbel" (a compressed raceme) reduced to one flower, so that the pedicel is the peduncle without either a bract or a diminutive bractlet. In range, flowers are smaller than typical for this desert species, and the fruits also are slightly shorter and narrower. Typically the banner never flares, so that the flower is not openly

presented to pollinators, and a fruit develops from each flower packed with trapezoidal seeds, evidence indicating that our populations are likely self-pollinated forms.
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