Ipomoea indica (Burm.) Merr., GARDEN MORNING GLORY. Herbaceous perennial vine, twining on surrounding plants, many-branched; shoots densely strigose (canescent); latex milky. **Stems:** cylindric, 1.5–4 mm diameter, tough, green to dark green aging purplish and on exposed surfaces, internodes mostly 70–170+ mm long. **Leaves:** helically alternate, unlobed to symmetrically or asymmetrically 3-lobed, petiolate, without stipules; petiole cylindric, 10–80+ mm long, typically < blade, strigose with downward-pointing or sometimes spreading hairs; blade broadly ovate to heart-shaped (unlobed), 30–120 × 35–120 mm, if 3-lobed lateral lobes equal or 1 with shallow sinus, cordate at base, entire, acute to short-acuminate at tip (terminal lobe) and acute to short-acuminate or obtuse at tip (lateral lobes), palmately veined with principal veins raised on lower surface, upper surface dull green, lower surface gray-green, densely strigose-sericeous and feltlike. **Inflorescence:** dichasial or trichasial cyme, axillary, (1–)several–15+-flowered, bracteate, pubescent; peduncle 3–240 × 1.8–2.5 mm; bract subtending each branchlet and bractlet subtending pedicel typically linear-lanceolate, 7–16 mm long, the first bract sometimes trowel-shaped to heart-shaped and to 40 × 30 mm, green but becoming reddish, parallel-veined, hairy, abscising above thickened base; pedicel 2–6 mm long. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, 52–75 mm across; **sepals** 5, erect, unequal, overlapping, lanceolate, 14–27 mm long increasing slightly in fruit, outer sepals wider and thicker than inner 1 or 2 sepals, not keeled, long-acuminate at tip, exposed outer surfaces villous to strigose with hairs to 1 mm long, internally glabrous or short-hairy approaching tip, green and ± ciliate on exposed margins, whitish and membranous to scarious on overlapped margins; **corolla** shallowly 5-lobed, broadly funnel-shaped, (50–)55–60(–70) mm long, in bud twisted; tube 11–13 mm wide at base, rose with white where covered by calyx, glabrous; throat + limb 25–33 mm long, brilliant blue when open in morning turning rose-purple (losing surface reflectance) and closing in evening, glabrous on back; lobes rounded, 10–15 × 25–30 mm, dull and minutely papillate, reinforced with a spoke to each lobe, the spokes radiating to form a starlike pattern on corolla, greenish with 3 veins + lateral ribs approaching tip and 5-veined on outside of corolla and colored like corolla on inside; **stamens** 5, fused to base of corolla tube, included; filaments unequal, slender, 12–26 mm long, white, with a tuft of white villous hairs at base of free portion and at top of portion fused to corolla; anthers erect, basifixed, dithecal, blunt arrow-shaped, 4.5–5 × 1.6–2 mm, white, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen white; **nectary disc** attached to receptacle surrounding ovary base, ringlike and 5-lobed, 2–2.5 mm across, 0.5–0.7 mm tall, white; **pistil** 1, ovary superior, conic, 1.5–2 mm long, greenish, faintly 3–lobed, 3-chambered, each chamber with 2 large, erect ovules; style scarcely exserted from tube, 25–31 mm long, white; stigma capitate 3-lobed, 1.7–2 mm diameter, whitish, each lobe with numerous mounds (appearing convoluted), mounds densely bristly-papillate. **Fruit:** (not observed yet in range) capsule, loculicidal, 6-seeded, subspheroid. January–December.

Naturalized. A twining, perennial vine formerly planted along Pacific Coast Highway and now persisting in disturbed sites, e.g., riparian woodland at the mouths of creeks. *Ipomoea indica*, formerly treated as *I. mutabilis*, is one of several blue-flowered species cultivated in southern California having three-lobed leaves, but this perennial seems to be the only one that has escaped. The flowers actually have dark purple pigmentation, but they appear brilliant blue from a distance because of the manner by which the petal surface reflects

wavelengths of light. In range, this morning glory does not appear to form fruits, perhaps because it lacks an effective pollinator, so it is unlikely that the species will ever become invasive.
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