Oenothera xenogaura W. L. Wagner & Hoch (hybrid form), GAURA. Perennial herb, rhizomatous, when flowering with leafless lower stem and ascending, photosynthetic axes of flowering shoots (virgate), decumbent to ascending, in range 30–100 cm tall; shoots with ascending to appressed cauline leaves, short-hairy. **Stems:** cylindric, to 5 mm diameter, short-strigose or becoming sparsely villous at base, older stems tannish brown, the outer layer splitting and eventually peeling (exfoliating) appearing glabrous. **Leaves:** helically alternate, simple, short-petiolate, without stipules; petiole 0.5–4 mm long, often sharply bent at base, yellowish, short-strigose; blade linear or lanceolate to narrowly elliptic or oblanceolate, 10–80 × 3–30 mm, broadly tapered to long-tapered at base, coarsely wavy-dentate or subentire on margins, acute to acuminate at tip, pinnately veined with whitish midrib somewhat raised on lower surface, evenly velutinous. **Inflorescence:** spike, terminal, many-flowered, of helically alternate flowers, 150–600 mm long, flowers spreading, only 1 open at a time on each inflorescence, bracteate; axis whiplike, drooping at tip when in bud, 1–2 mm diameter at base, wiry; bractlet subtending flower appressed, deltate to ovate, 1.5–2.5 × 1–1.8 mm. **Flower:** bisexual, mostly radial but petals reoriented to upper side and anthers and stigma positioned downward, 12–15 mm across; bud ascending, very short-strigose on ovary, hypanthium, and calyx; hypanthium above ovary, swollen just above ovary but mostly cylindric, 6.5–11 mm long, swollen base 2–2.5 mm diameter, green and red, ca. 12-veined, the veins rosy red, densely white-villous with hairs slightly upward-curving; **nectary** of 4 ± riblike glands at base of hypanthium surrounding base style base, 2–2.5 mm long, green; **sepals** 4, free or somewhat fused at base, strongly reflexed from hypanthium rim, tapered-linear, 10–13.5 × 1.2–2.3 mm, the widest at slightly flared base, green with reddish tip, margins, and midvein, aging with more red; **petals** 4, clawed, 8.5–11 mm long (including claw 1–2.5 mm long), pale pink; limb ovate to elliptic, 4.5–6 mm wide, at anthesis pale pink to pink-rose and strong purplish red below aging crimson, entire, pinnately veined; **stamens** 8 in 1 set, free, arising from hypanthium rim, monomorphic, with rounded green tooth at base of each filament directed inward over hypanthium tube; filaments erect, 6–7 mm long, wider above midpoint and with narrow tip, white with pale green at base, glabrous; anthers dorsifixed appearing versatile, dithecal, linear, 4–6 × 0.5–0.7 mm, bright yellow along margins of slit and deep purplish red, connective light green, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen yellow, held in a mass by minute threads (viscin threads); **pistil** 1, with short-tapered base (resembling a pedicel), base ca. 1 mm long increasing to 3 mm in fruit; ovary inferior, ± 4-sided, narrowly fusiform, 5–8 × 1–1.5 mm long, with broad rib on each edge and narrow rib on each face (deeply and narrowly grooved between ribs), inconspicuously short-strigose, 4-chambered with 3–5 pendulous ovules, becoming 1-chambered in fruit; style exserted, 17.5–21 mm long, curved downward, without hairs at base, above white-velutinous for 7 mm within hypanthium, glabrous on exposed portion, deep red approaching stigma; stigma just above level of anthers, equally 4-lobed, yellow-green, lobes spreading, lanceolate, 1.5–2.5 mm long. **Fruit:** rarely observed in range, nutlet, indehiscent, ± erect, typically 2-seeded, 4-angled, 8–9.5 mm long with basal portion stalklike, having an abrupt midfruit bulge, with 1 seed in stalklike base and 1 seed in upper chamber. **Seed:** ovoid, 2.5–3 mm long, brown. Late July–late October.

Naturalized. Perennial herb known to date from two populations approximately one kilometer apart near Liberty Canyon Road, where likely there were early homes with gardens. In range plants are growing in grasslands with weedy species and most resemble a garden cultivar of hybrid origin, probably between parents that formerly were called *Gaura drummondii* and *G. lindheimeri*. Our plants have pink petals aging deep rose and crimson. To date only one mature fruit has ever been found in range, because after a flower closes the ovary aborts and abscises, typically within several days. Fruit abortion suggests that each population is entirely or largely one clone that is self-incompatible. The two populations probably are different clones. These plants are distinctive from the taller *Oenothera lindheimeri*, which has larger, mostly white flowers, and which is often grown in gardens around southern California.
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