

Contra stoneseed

Scientific name: *Lithospermum ruderale* Douglass ex Lehmann

Common names: Contra stoneseed, Western stoneseed, Lemonweed, Yellow puccoon

In Latin the word 'litho' means stone, and 'spermum' means seed; thus the common name 'stoneseed'. The hard ovoid nutlets of this plant are about 6mm wide and are smooth and highly polished. Unlike many other plants whose flowers produce a prolific amount of seeds, each flower of this plant produces only one, sometimes two seeds.



Although the meaning of the Latin word 'ruderal' is rubbish or waste, referring to the waste places the plant is found growing in, this is not a weedy plant. It is found growing in sagebrush communities usually at lower elevation areas in the county.

Another common name for this plant is Puccoon which means dye in one of the Native American

