

8 February 2016

Dr. Alexey Shipunov
Minot State University Herbarium
Minot State University
Department of Biology
500 University Avenue W
Minot, ND 58707

Dear Dr. Shipunov:

As per your recent request, please find enclosed a selection of 14 herbarium specimens of Plantago floccosa collected at a number of sites throughout the documented range of this species within Escambia County, Florida. As you can see, this Mexican endemic is completely naturalized along numerous weedy roadsides and extends from the Pensacola area northward to only a few hundred feet south of the Alabama state line. Plantago floccosa is particularly abundant alongside Atmore Highway (FL Hwy 97), where there are many thousands of individuals scattered over a distance of 4.3 miles.

Of course, based on my observations over the years, it seems obvious that P. floccosa was well established here long before I first noticed it on 5 June 1997. What remains undetermined is how and when this curious Mexican species became introduced to northwestern Florida. I am planning to write a brief article about the status of P. floccosa for publication in the Journal of the Botanical Research Institute of Texas in the not-too-distant future.

It is my hope that these specimens will be of some use to you, and, of course, you may keep them as long as needed.

Sincerely,



James R. Burkhalter
Curator