



Flower heads feature prominent yellow ray flowers, which are aromatic and sticky to the touch. The flowering Santa Cruz tarplant is most visible during the summer months, when the yellow bloom contrasts against the drier grasses within Arana Gulch.

**Arana Gulch** is home to one of the few remaining populations of the Santa Cruz tarplant (*Holocarpha macradenia*). This native annual herb was historically found along Monterey Bay and San Francisco Bay within coastal prairie habitat. As of 2000, eleven Santa Cruz County populations continued to exist, though most of the populations have

declined substantially since the early 1990s. A member of the sunflower family, the Santa Cruz tarplant is now federal-listed as Threatened, and State-listed as Endangered. This Master Plan includes an Adaptive Management Program to guide the future management and recovery of the tarplant population at Arana Gulch.

## Santa Cruz Tarplant