

# Have you seen this plant?

## *Matthiola parviflora* (Shousb.) (Brassicaceae)



**Petals:**  
0.6-0.8 cm,  
lavender,  
obovate

**Raceme:**  
Usually  
< 20cm,  
often  
overtopped  
by leaves



### Horned Siliques

These are  
distinctive  
to the  
genus  
*Matthiola*



**Petals:**  
1.4-2 cm,  
margin  
undulate,  
claw  
yellow,  
livid or  
purple

**Raceme:**  
Tall, to  
40cm.

We are trying to catalog the current distribution of *Matthiola parviflora*, an exotic annual crucifer, around Tucson (and anywhere else you've seen it!). It is flowering and fruiting right now (March-April 2010) and may be in your yard, along the sidewalks in your neighborhood, or local trails! **If you see it, please email detailed location information and any comments about extent or density to Jonathan Horst : [jhorst@email.arizona.edu](mailto:jhorst@email.arizona.edu)**

*M. parviflora* is similar to the more showy *M. longipetala*, a naturalized horticultural plant, but *M. parviflora* has much smaller (< 1cm diameter) and paler (lavender) flowers without wavy margins on the petals (see flower pictures of both species above). Both have characteristic long narrow *horned* siliques.

**For higher resolution photos and more detailed plant descriptions please visit : <http://www.eebweb.arizona.edu/faculty/venable/matthiola.htm>**