

## *Adenostoma sparsifolium* Torrey

### Red Shank, Redribbons, Ribbonbush

**Description:** Erect shrub or small tree 2-6 m high, with reddish-brown bark shredding, twigs glabrous. The linear leaves are 3.6-26.3 mm long, glandular, short-erect-hairy, flexible, not clustered like *Adenostoma fasciculatum*. Inflorescence is an open panicle, 0.8-7.7 cm long, pedicels 0-2.8 mm long, translucent bractlets enclose bud. Flowers are small, cream-colored, petals elliptic to ovate, blooming July through August. The fruit is elliptic, with a rounded tip, reddish-brown.

**Habitat:** dry slopes, flats, in chaparral, 275-2,000 m.

**Distribution:** Southeastern San Luis Obispo County south to northern San Diego County, California in chaparral. Not in desert areas.

**Landscape Position:** Best in dry, open, well-drained locations, south and west sides of house in hot valleys and mountains.

**Landscape Attributes:** Provides soft green texture, attractive peeling bark. Evergreen requiring NO irrigation. Ascending habit, becoming rounded with age, and sometimes developed a lion-tail effect. Multiple to single trunks.

