

# *Erysimum capitatum*

## Western Wallflower

- Family: Brassicaceae  
Genus: Erysimum  
Species: capitatum  
Height: to 32"  
Blooms: March to September  
Elevation: 2,500' to 9,500'  
Habitat: Roadsides, open flats, slopes and dry, stony banks  
Flowers: Bright yellow to yellow-orange with 4 petals, to 3/4" wide, in cluster or rounded terminal raceme.  
Fruit: Very slender, erect 4-sided pod, 2" to 4" long.  
Leaves: Grayish green, lance-shaped, 1" to 5" long, toothed margins in basal rosette. Stem leaves are narrow with small teeth.  
Range: British Columbia and Idaho south to southern California, Arizona, and New Mexico.  
Notes: Similar to *Erysimum wheeleri* (*Erysimum capitatum* var. *capitatum*), which has dark orange to maroon flowers and is found in coniferous forests above 7,000'. Photo taken in Mazatzal Wilderness in May 2001.

### References

1. Epple, A.O., *A Field Guide to the Plants of Arizona*, Falcon, 1995, p. 79.
2. Kearney, T.H. and R.H. Peebles, *Arizona Flora* (1st edition), University of California Press, 1951, p. 354.
3. Rickett, H.W., *Wild Flowers of the United States, vol. 4: The Southwestern States*, McGraw-Hill, 1966, p. 210.
4. Spellenberg, R., *National Audubon Society Field Guide to Wildflowers, Western Edition* (revised), Alfred A. Knopf, 2001, p. 427.
5. Spellenberg, R., *Sonoran Desert Wildflowers*, Falcon, 2003, p. 175.

