SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Andrena macswaini*
COMMON NAME: none; an andrenid bee
CLASS, FAMILY: Insecta, Andrenidae

ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION: Linsley, E.G. 1960. A new species of *Diandrena* associated with *Oenothera* in California. Pan-Pacific Entomologist 36(2):97.

TYPE MATERIAL: *Holotype*: Female - California: Kern County; 18 miles east of Bakersfield, 11 Apr 1958, visiting flowers of *Oenothera dentata* (= *Camissonia lacustris*) (but not collecting pollen), between 7:30 and 7:45 a.m. PST, E.G. Linsley, collector. Type #6695 deposited in the California Academy of Sciences. *Allotype*: Male - same locality and collector, 27 Feb 1959, deposited in CAS. *Paratypes*: 137 specimens collected from the same locality on various dates between 9 Mar and 9 Apr 1959 and 1960 by E.G. Linsley and J.W. MacSwain, and E.G. and J.M. Linsley; paratypes deposited in the Essig Museum, University of California, Berkeley.

RANKING/STATUS: G1G3S1S3 (NatureServe - CNDDB).

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Both sexes are somewhat slender gray-green bees with bluish pleura. Females measure 9-9.5 mm; males 7.5-8 mm.

DIAGNOSTIC CHARACTERS: Thorp (1969) states that this species can be separated from the similar *Andrena (Diandrena) cyanosoma* "...by the narrower jugal lobe of the hind wing, which lacks an incision between it and the vannal lobe, and by the noncontiguous punctures on the anterior portion of the mesoscutum."

OTHER ILLUSTRATIONS: Thorp (1969) shows the distribution of this species in Map 10, and illustrates the labral process of the female and male (figs. 37-38), male genital capsule (fig. 66), and metasomal sternum 8 (fig. 78).

DISTRIBUTION: Central Valley and adjacent foothills, from Kern to Madera Counties.

HABITAT: *Andrena macswaini* nests in deep sandy soil.

LIFE HISTORY/BEHAVIOR: This species is an oligolege of morning-opening yellow-flowered *Camissonia* species. Females fly from late February to mid-May, and males have been collected from late February to mid-March. Unlike other *Andrena (Diandrena)*, the females nest in aggregations in depressed areas in the ground.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Thorp, R.W. 1969. Systematics and ecology of bees of the subgenus *Diandrena* (Hymenoptera: Andrenidae). University of California Publications in Entomology 52:1-146.