

Dichotomous key to sagebrush species growing near Baggs

- 1a. Spiny shrub, usually less than 10 inches in height, leaves mostly with 6-9 lobes and very hairy.....*A. spinescens*, bud sagebrush
- 1b. Shrub or sub-shrub lacking spines.....2
- 2a. Leaves deeply divided, with many narrow lobes.....3
- 2b. Leaves with 3 or fewer lobes.....4
- 3a. Mounded sub-shrub, up to 10 or so inches not including flower stalks, leaves deeply and multiply lobed ("fringed"), hairy and soft.....*A. frigida*, fringed sagewort
- 3b. Low sub-shrub, usually less than 4 inches in height, growing on clay soils. Leaves with divided lobes.....*A. pedatifida*, birdfoot sagebrush
- 4a. Shrub less than 2 feet tall, usually with multiple stems, leaves with three lobes. Often growing as an "island" surrounded by big sagebrush...*A. arbuscula*, low sagebrush
- 4b. Shrubs 2 feet or taller, leaves without lobes or with very shallow or irregular lobes.....5
- 5a. Leaves mostly without lobes, but some leaves with irregular lobes, growing in meadows, along streams or in depressions.....*A. cana*, silver sagebrush
- 5b. Leaves with three very shallow lobes ("teeth").....*A. tridentata*, big sagebrush
- 6a. Leaves with l:w greater than 3:1, shrubs with rounded tops, growing in valleys.....*A. t. var. tridentata*, basin big sagebrush
- 6b. Leaves with length to width ratio less than or equal to 3:1.....7
- 7a. Leaves not exceeding 3 mm in width, 7-11 mm in length.....*A. t. var. Wyomingensis*, Wyoming big sagebrush
- 7b. Leaves 3-7 mm x 12-15 mm.... *A. t. var. vaseyana*, mountain big sagebrush



