**Astragalus deterior**  

**CLIFF-PALACE MILKVETCH**

![Image of Astragalus deterior](image)

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**Fabaceae (Pea Family)**

**Synonym:** *Astragalus naturitensis var. deterior*

**Look Alikes:** *A. monumentalis var. cottamii* has narrower pod septa
and pink-purple flowers. *A. humillimus* has a distinctive spine-tipped rachis which remains part of the plant after the leaves are shed.

**Flowering/Fruiting Period:** May/late May-June.

**Habitat:** Sandstone rimrock edges of mesas. Found in cracks and depressions in shallow soil. Elev. 6400-7000 ft.

**Distribution:** Colorado endemic (Mesa Verde National Park, Montezuma Co.).