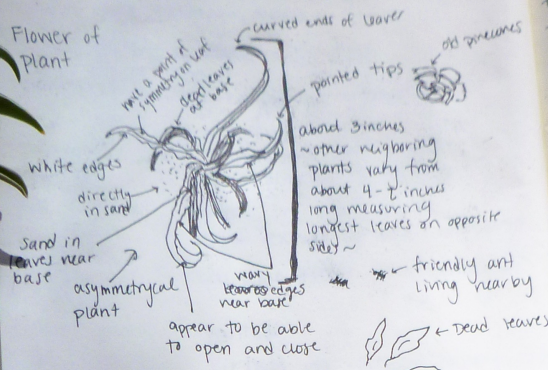


PLANT STUDY: SECTION ONE

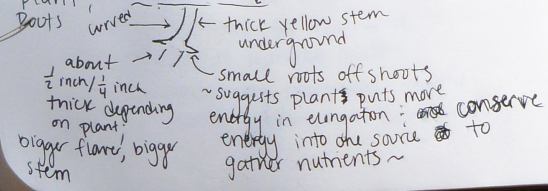
Molise
3-21-19
Dry rain next to
canyon wall
2:10 pm

"Wavy star": This plant is a small green-leaved plant roots about 2-4 inches wide, measuring from the longest leaves on either side. The flower of the plant appears to be the only part above the soil. It ranges from 9-10 leaves parting out in separate veys around the ground. The leaves have a white outer edges to them and seem to be wavier toward the base. They are narrow, longer leaves that are pointed and curled at the ends.

Flower of plant



Stem of plant:



The stem upon further, more investigation was underground, thick and yellow. The root system appeared to be tiny offshoots from the stem, also underground. "Wavy star" is rooted in sand that is soft and fine. Further down it is more firm. This area is optimal for collecting water and this area is also optimal for collecting water when it rains suggesting this plant may need more water than some of its other desert friends. This plant is also located in an area with lots of exposure to sunlight. This plant has a more coarse texture with no evident smell, source, or taste. It is also located near some ant holes, dead leaves and pinecones. Ecological speculations - If the plant relies solely on water remaining in soil for long periods at a time, why is it growing in? Do the leaves have an apparent ability to open and close to conserve energy when other resources are limited? Do they rely on ants for pollination? or wind blowing sand around? Do they not have an obvious seed or fruit help ensure its longevity by not having other animals eat it? Why don't the ants seem to want to eat it? Does its small design allow the plant to live longer? Do they give off a certain smell to insects so they won't damage it?

