

# WEED IDENTIFICATION

By Carrie Becker



# Black Henbane

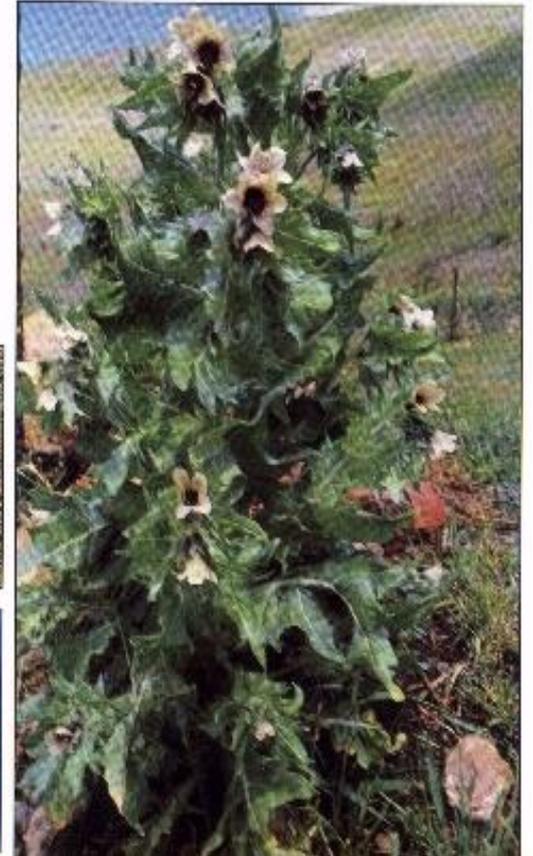
Black henbane is poisonous to both humans and livestock.

Grows 1 to 3 ft tall.

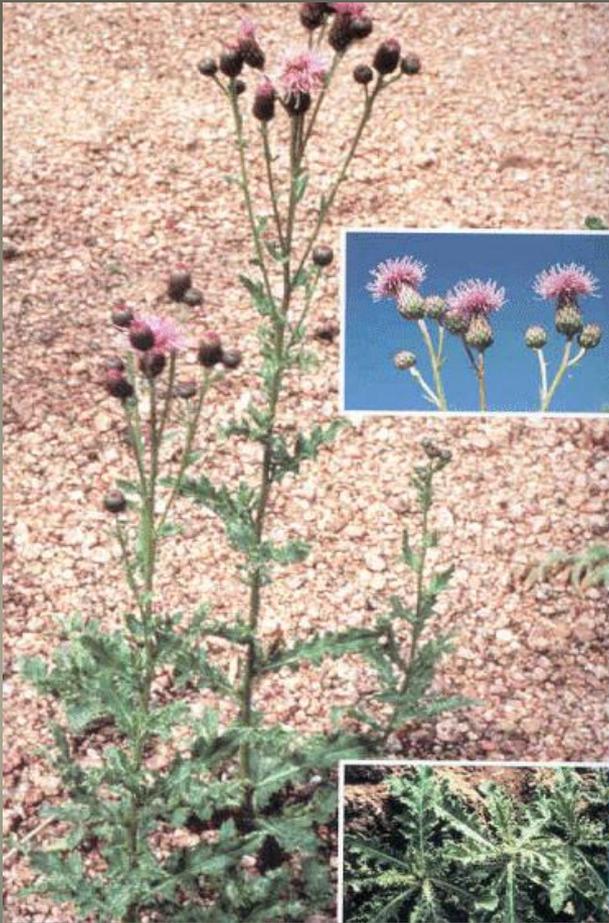
Leaves are coarsely toothed to shallow lobed and pubescent. Foliage has a foul odor at all stages.

Rosettes are large with serrated leaves covered with fine hair.

Two rows of pineapple-shaped fruit, about 1 in long, appear in early fall. Each capsule contains hundreds of tiny black seeds



# Canada Thistle



Canada thistle is a colony-forming perennial. It has deep and extensive horizontal roots. Stems are 1 to 4 ft tall, ridged and branching.

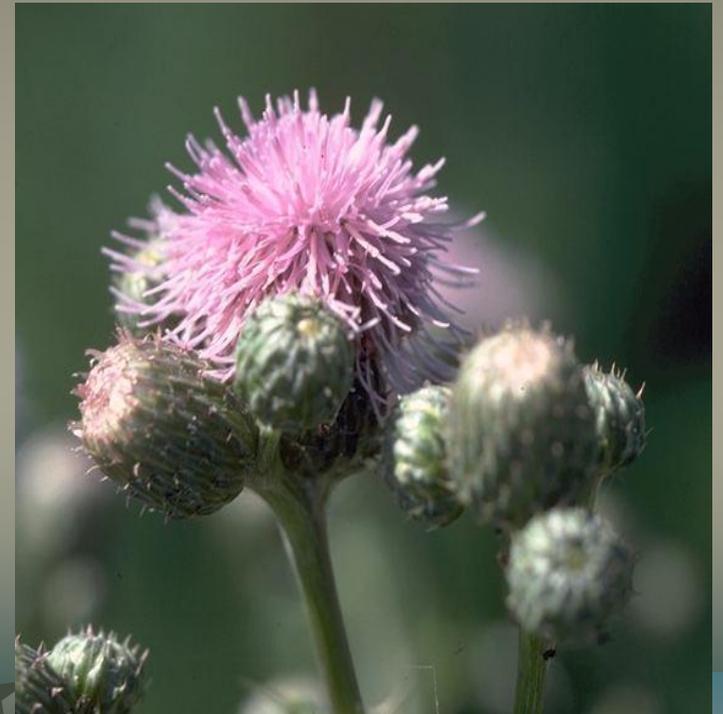
Flowers are purple or sometimes white with heads  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  in in diameter.

New seedlings are usually new shoots arising from the extensive creeping root system.

# Canada Thistle

Flowering occurs during June through August.

Has clusters of flower heads and the bracts under the flowers are spineless.



# Musk Thistle



Also called nodding thistle, can grow up to 6 ft tall. The leaves are dark green with a light green midrib, deeply lobed, and spiny margined. The leaves extend onto the stem giving a winged appearance.

Flower heads are often deep rose, violet or purple, 1½ to 3 inches wide and have broad spine-tipped bracts

Rosettes have wavy margins and are somewhat lobed with marginal yellow spines

# Musk Thistle



# Spotted Knapweed



Spotted knapweed can have one or more stems branched 1 to 3 ft tall, basal leaves can be up to 6 in long and flowering heads are solitary at end of branches.

Rosette leaves are deeply divided and start growth early in the spring

Flowers are usually pinkish-purple. The bracts under the flowers have dark spots tipped with fringe

# Leafy Spurge



Leafy spurge infests almost 2.5 million acres in North America. It can cause severe irritation of the mouth and digestive tract in cattle which may result in death.

It is perennial, grows up to 3 ft tall, and reproduces by both vigorous rootstalks and seed. The entire plant contains a milky juice

# Leafy Spurge

Stems are thickly clustered  
Leaves are alternate, narrow, 1 to 4 inches long.

Flowers are yellowish-green, small, and arranged in numerous small clusters.  
Heart-shaped yellow bracts surround the 3-celled seed capsule

Roots are brown, containing numerous pink buds which may produce new shoots or roots. Root depths can be up to 14 ft.



# Halogeton



Toxic to livestock, especially sheep

Plants are blue-green in the spring and early summer and red or yellow by late summer.

Leaves are fleshy and terminate with a needle-like structure. They are connected to a red colored stem.



Flowers are green and inconspicuous.

# Russian Thistle



# Russian Thistle

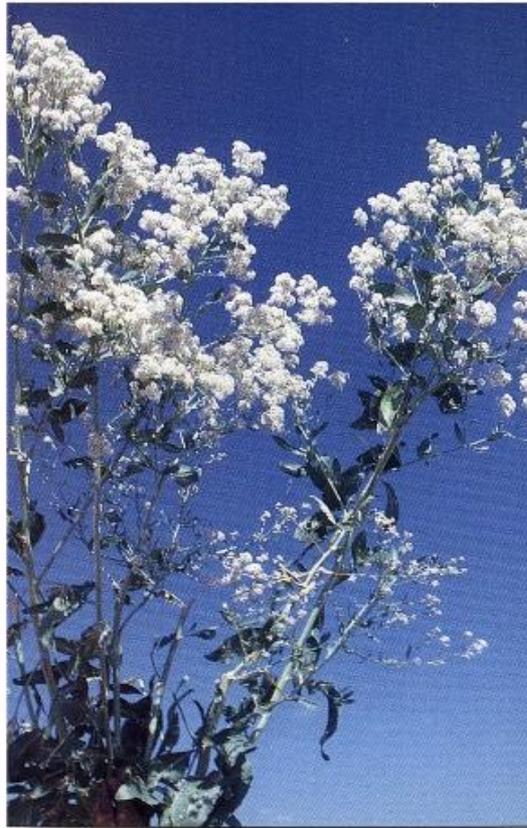


Rounded bushy annual, ranges from ½ to 3 ft tall.

Stems are red or purple striped.

Leaves are alternate, short, scale-like and tipped with a stiff spine

# Perennial Pepperweed



Also called tall whitetop

Perennial that grows from 1 to 3 feet tall

Leaves are bright green to gray-green and basal leaves are larger than upper leaves

Flowers are small, white, and located in dense clusters near the ends of branches

Fruits are silicle, rounded, flattened, slightly hairy, and reddish brown in color

# Hoary Cress



Also called whitetop

Perennial that grows up to 2 ft tall

Reproduces from root segments and seeds

Leaves are blue-green and lance-shaped

Each plant has many white flowers with 4 petals each

Seed capsules are heart-shaped and contain 2 reddish-brown seeds

# Saltcedar ( Tamarisk)



# Saltcedar (Tamarisk)



Grow along streams, canals and reservoirs

Grows up to 20 feet tall

Bark on saplings and stems is reddish-brown

Leaves are small and scale-like on highly branched slender stems

Flowers are pink to white and 5 petalled

Large mature plant can transpire at least 200 gallons of water per plant per day and will often dry up ponds and streams

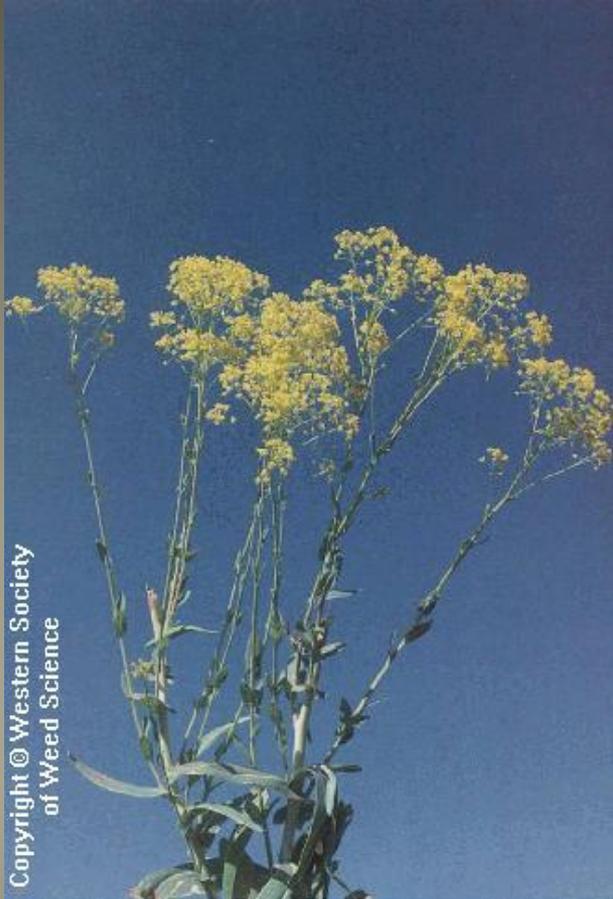
# Cheatgrass (Downy brome)

Winter annual that grows 4 to 30 inches tall  
Reproduces by seed  
Entire plant is covered with dense soft hair  
Inflorescence is dense, slender, and usually drooping

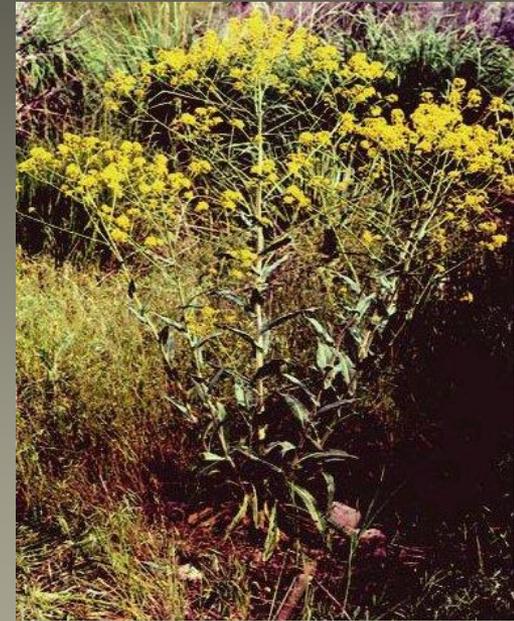


Awns are  $\frac{3}{8}$  to  $\frac{5}{8}$  inches long and usually purplish at maturity

# Dyer's Woad



Seedlings appear in the fall and overwinter in this stage



# Dyer's Woad



Purplish-brown seed pods appear in mid summer making this plant very distinguishable.

# Houndstongue



# Houndstongue

