

Burweed Marsh Elder / Giant Poverty Weed

Genus/species Iva xanthifolia

Family Asteraceae

Distribution Central, W and NE US E Washington southward to NE California

NE California southeastward to N Texas N Texas northeastward to central Illinois Central Illinois northwestward to E Washington

New Jersey to Maine

Comments

This species is a common plant along roadsides, cultivated fields or along streams in much of the central part of the US. It may grow to be 6 feet tall. The specific name refers to the shape of the larger leaves, which are rather triangular or fan-shaped, resembling those of the Cocklebur. The undersides of the leaves are lighter in color than the upper surfaces. Young plants of Burweed Marsh Elder may resemble sunflower plants at a similar stage of development (and often grow in similar habitats), but the rather inconspicuous greenish flowers of the mature Marsh Elder depend upon wind-pollination.







