

# How to Identify a Weed



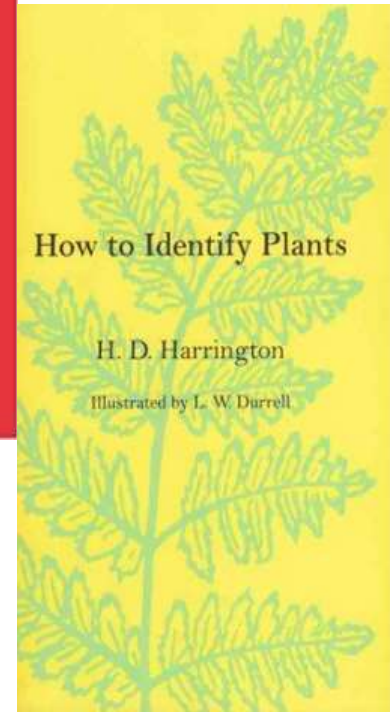
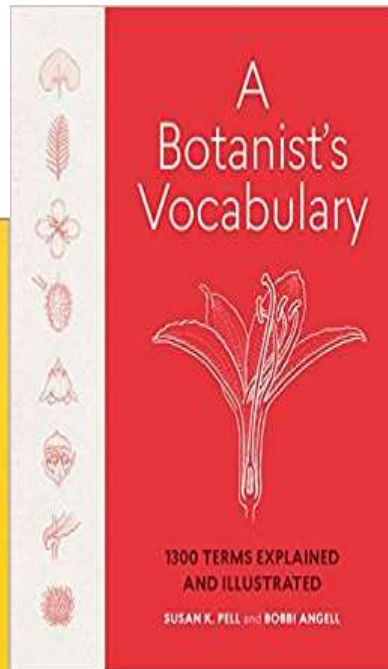
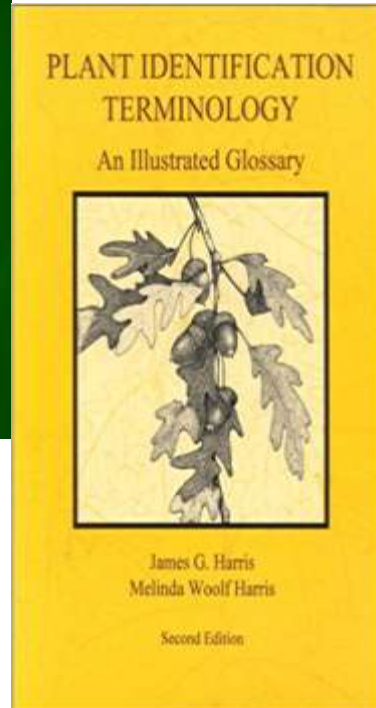
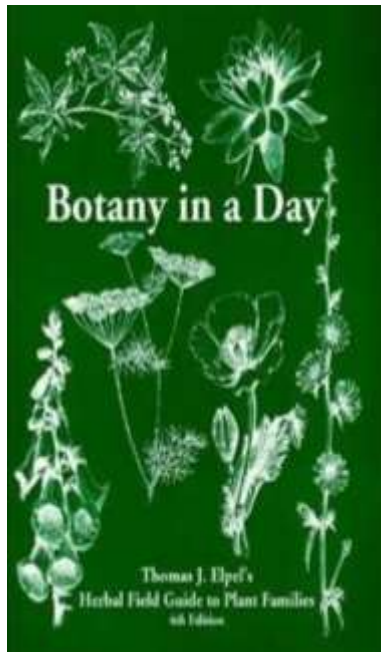
Steve Schoenig – Cal-IPC

# Methods of getting a weed identified.

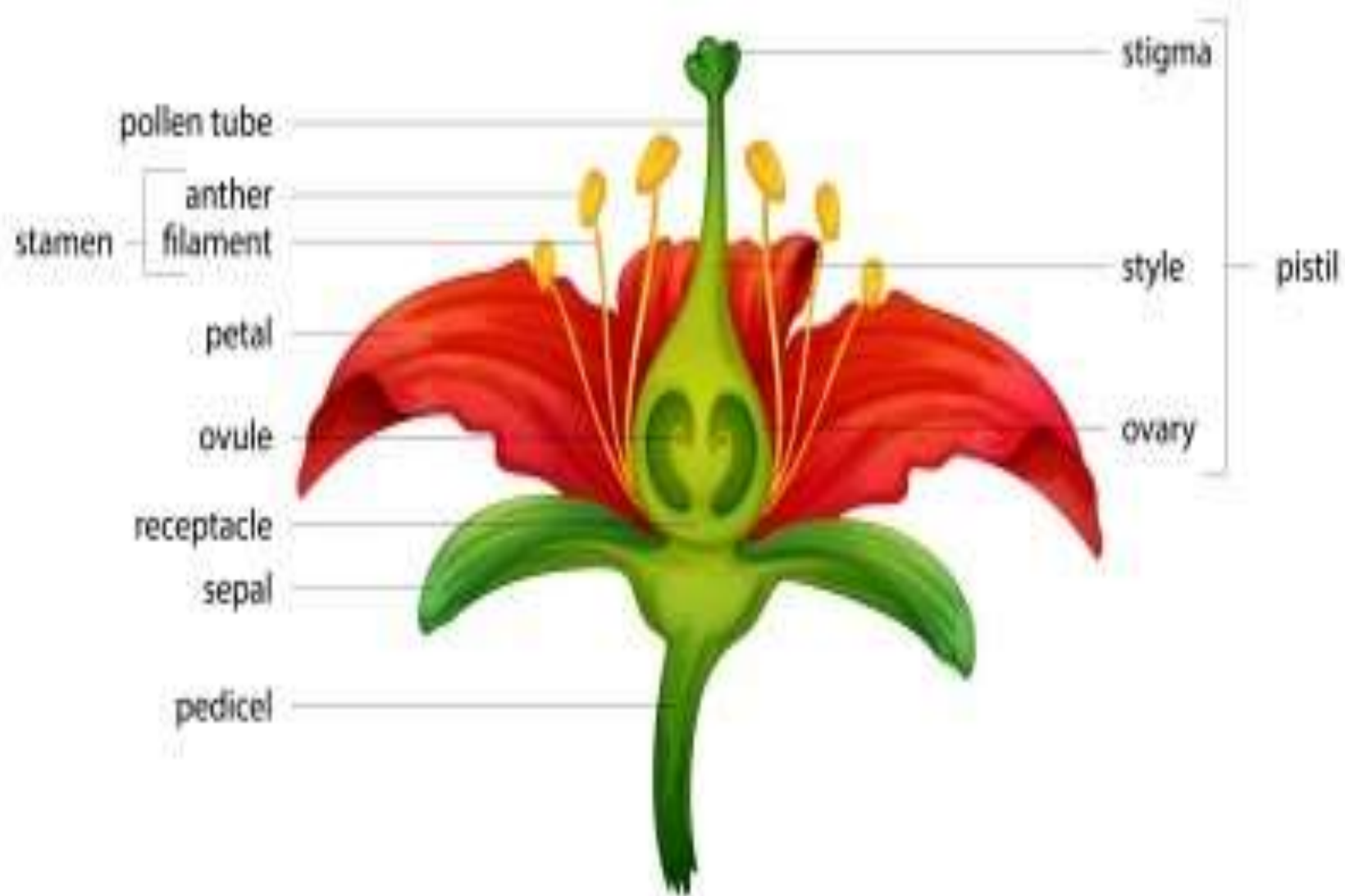
- Keying
- Pictures
- Locality
- Crowd Sourcing
- Ask an Expert

# Keying

# Basic Botany – Recognizing Plant Families and knowing botanical terminology is key.



## Parts of a Flower



# Jepson Manual



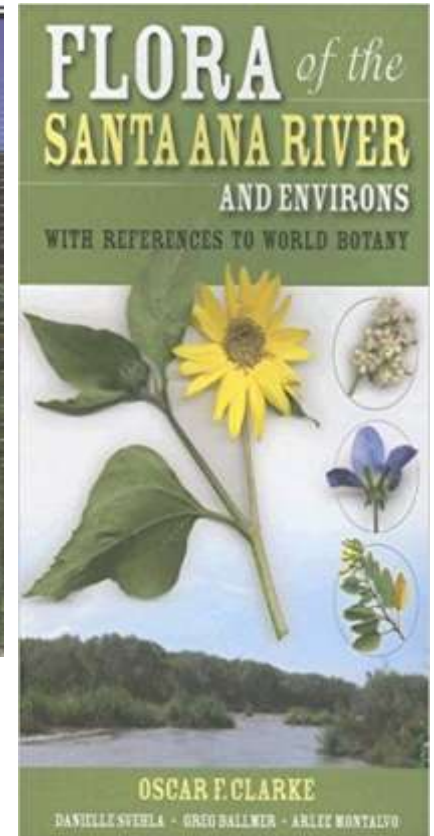
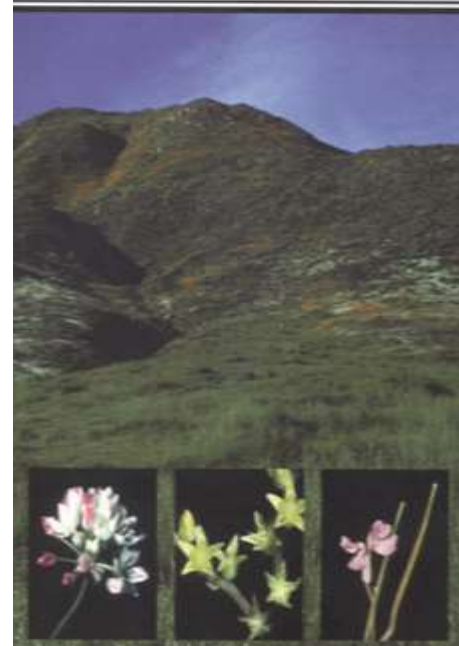
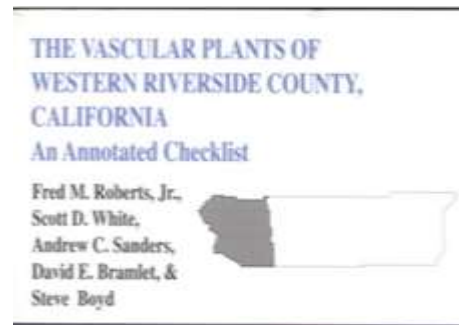
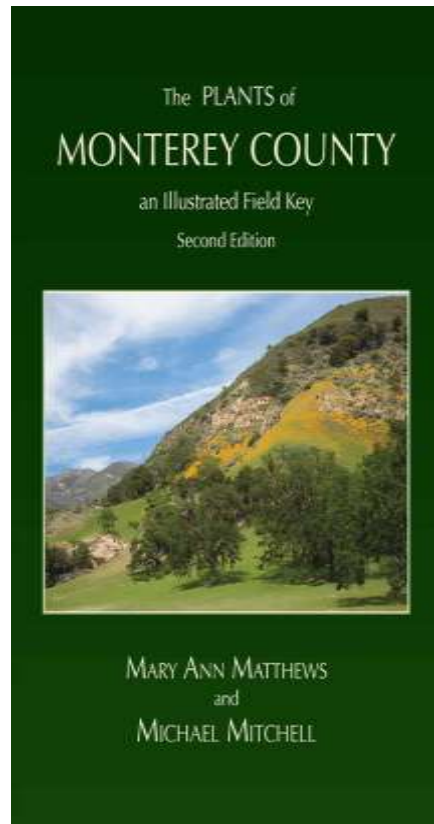
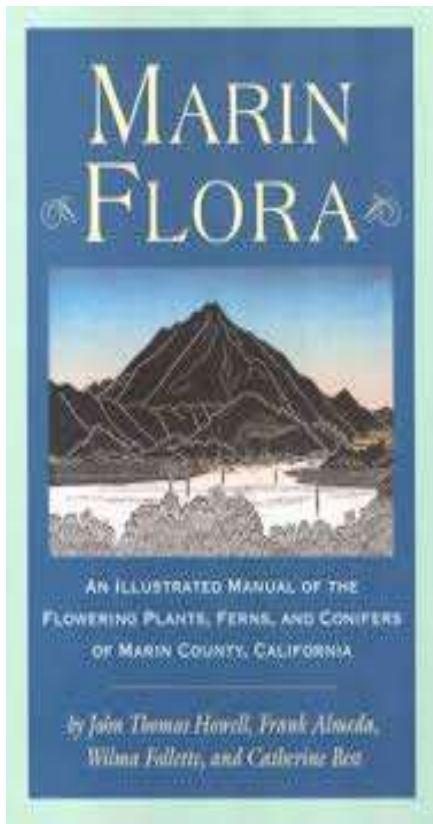
**THE JEPSON MANUAL**  
VASCULAR PLANTS of CALIFORNIA

Leadly Editor: G. S. BENTON, Director; H. G. GILGENTON, Editor; J. R. HALL, Associate Editor; THOMAS J. ROBERTS, and DEBRA H. WILSON

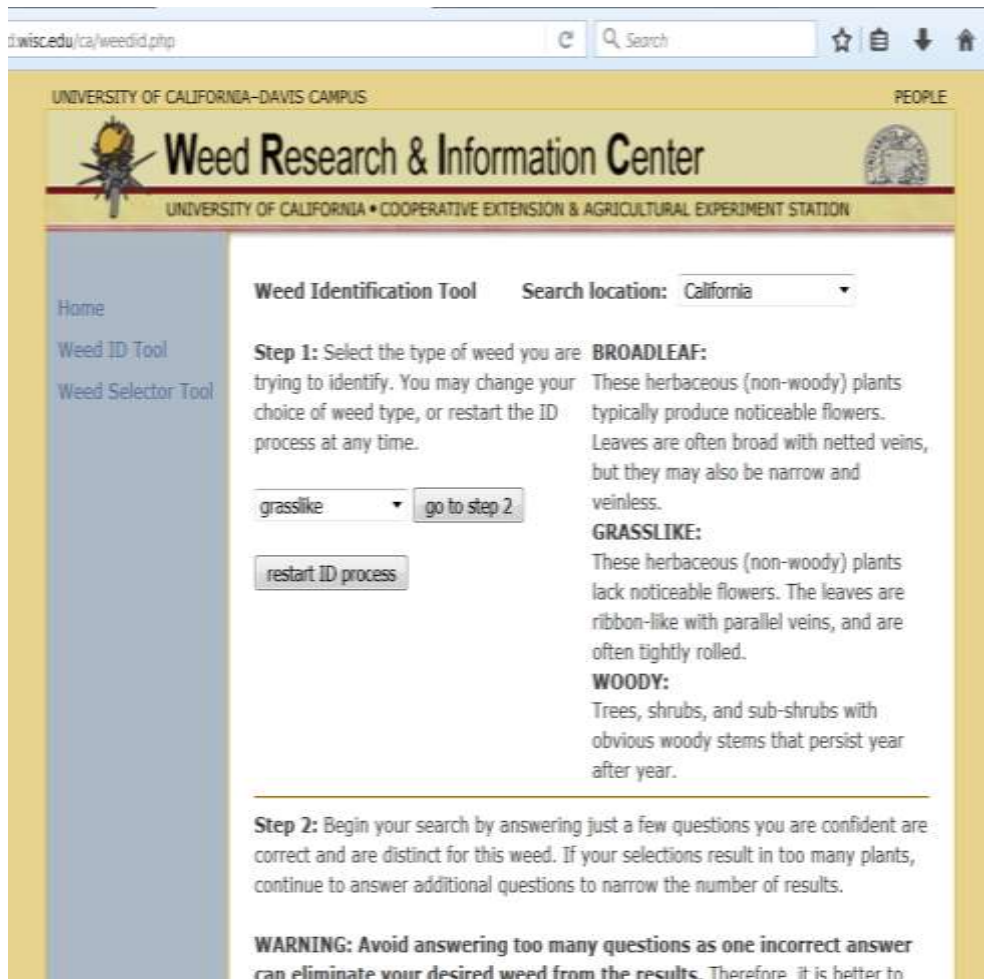
Second Edition, The Jepson Botanical Foundation



- 13. Seed cone gen closed at maturity, asymmetric ..... *P. bolanderi*
- 13' Seed cone open at maturity, asymmetric or ± symmetric
- 14. Seed cone persisting on st many years after opening ..... spp. *contorta*
- 14' Seed cone deciduous after opening ..... ssp. *murrayana*
- 11' Lvs 3 or 5 per bundle
- 15. Lvs 5 per bundle ..... *P. torreyana*
- 15' Lvs 3 per bundle
- 16. Basal seed cone scale tips recurved, elongated 3–7 cm; seed cone scale prickles gen worn off by maturity
- 17. Seed cone yellowish; seed < wing; lf dark green ..... *P. coulteri*
- 17' Seed cone brownish; seed > wing; lf gray-green ..... *P. sabiniana*
- 16' Basal seed cone scale tips rarely recurved, then elongated < 3 cm; seed cone scales (exc sometimes upper) with a rounded or angled, often prickled knob < 3 cm at maturity
- 18. Seed cones persisting on sts many years after maturity
- 19. Seed cone scale tips, exc upper, with an angular knob > 2 cm ..... *P. attenuata*
- 19' Seed cone scale tips, exc upper, with a rounded knob < 2 cm ..... *P. radiata*
- 18' Seed cones deciduous after maturity
- 20. Seed cone gen < 9 cm; lf gen 7–12 cm ..... *P. washoensis*
- 20' Seed cone gen > 9 cm; lf gen > 15 cm
- 21. Lower surface of seed cone scale gen not darker than upper; lf grayish blue-green, glaucous; bark odor banana-, pineapple-, or vanilla-like ..... *P. jeffreyi*
- 21' Lower surface of seed cone scale gen darker than upper; lf deep yellow-green; bark odor not banana-, pineapple-, or vanilla-like ..... *P. ponderosa*




# weedid.wisc.edu/ca/weedid.php



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `d.wisc.edu/ca/weedid.php`. The page header includes the University of California-Davis Campus logo and the text "Weed Research & Information Center" and "UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA • COOPERATIVE EXTENSION & AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION". The main content area is titled "Weed Identification Tool" and features a "Search location:" dropdown menu set to "California". Below this, there are instructions for "Step 1" and three categories of weeds: "BROADLEAF:", "GRASSLIKE:", and "WOODY:". Each category has a brief description. A "grasslike" dropdown menu is visible, along with "go to step 2" and "restart ID process" buttons. "Step 2" instructions and a "WARNING" are also present at the bottom of the visible content.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA-DAVIS CAMPUS

PEOPLE

 **Weed Research & Information Center**

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA • COOPERATIVE EXTENSION & AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Home  
Weed ID Tool  
Weed Selector Tool

**Weed Identification Tool** Search location:

**Step 1:** Select the type of weed you are trying to identify. You may change your choice of weed type, or restart the ID process at any time.

**BROADLEAF:**  
These herbaceous (non-woody) plants typically produce noticeable flowers. Leaves are often broad with netted veins, but they may also be narrow and veinless.

**GRASSLIKE:**  
These herbaceous (non-woody) plants lack noticeable flowers. The leaves are ribbon-like with parallel veins, and are often tightly rolled.

**WOODY:**  
Trees, shrubs, and sub-shrubs with obvious woody stems that persist year after year.

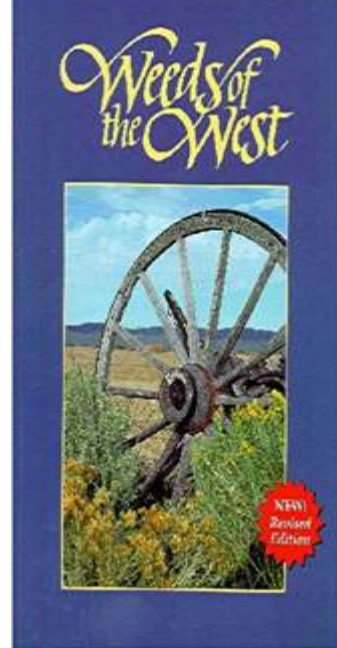
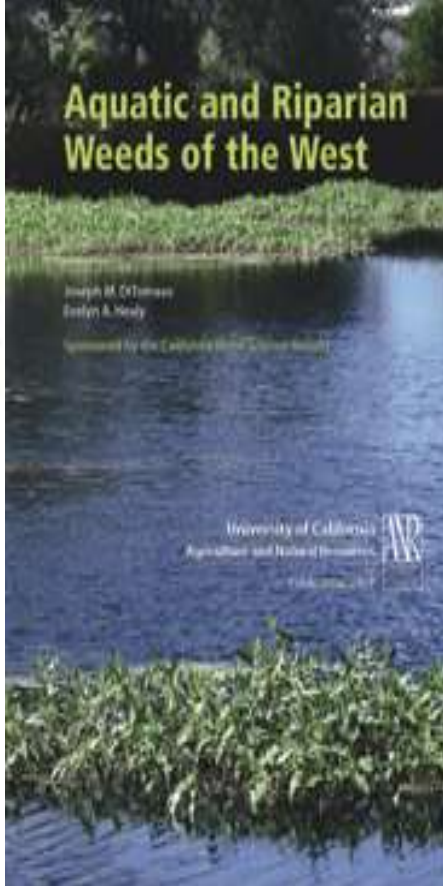
**Step 2:** Begin your search by answering just a few questions you are confident are correct and are distinct for this weed. If your selections result in too many plants, continue to answer additional questions to narrow the number of results.

**WARNING:** Avoid answering too many questions as one incorrect answer can eliminate your desired weed from the results. Therefore, it is better to

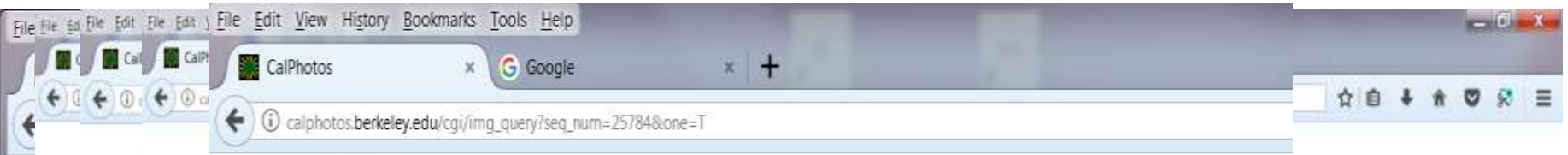
- Online key
- just weeds
- Context specific help and illustrations



# Pictures



# CalPhotos - calphotos.berkeley.edu/flora/



## CalPhotos Photo Database



*Centaurea solstitialis*  
Yellow Star Thistle

Photographer: [Jo-Ann Ordano](#)  
Organization: California Academy of Sciences  
Collection: [CalAcademy](#)  
  
ID: 9187 3302 4015 0134 (2000-06-07)  
  
Copyright © 2000 California Academy of Sciences

### INFORMATION PROVIDED WITH THE PHOTO

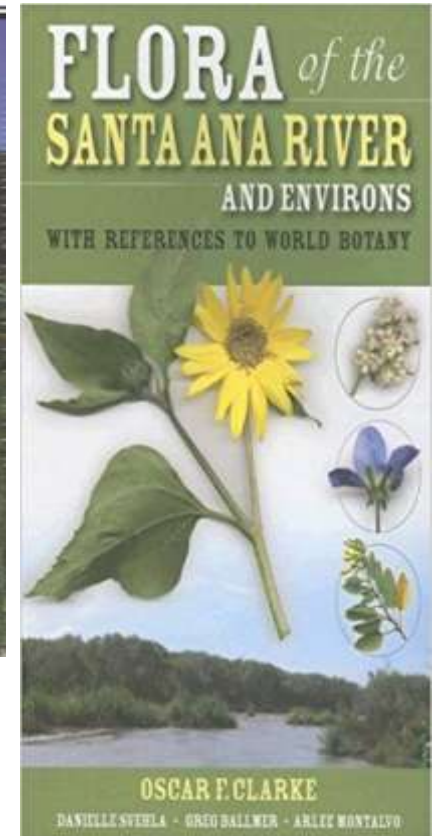
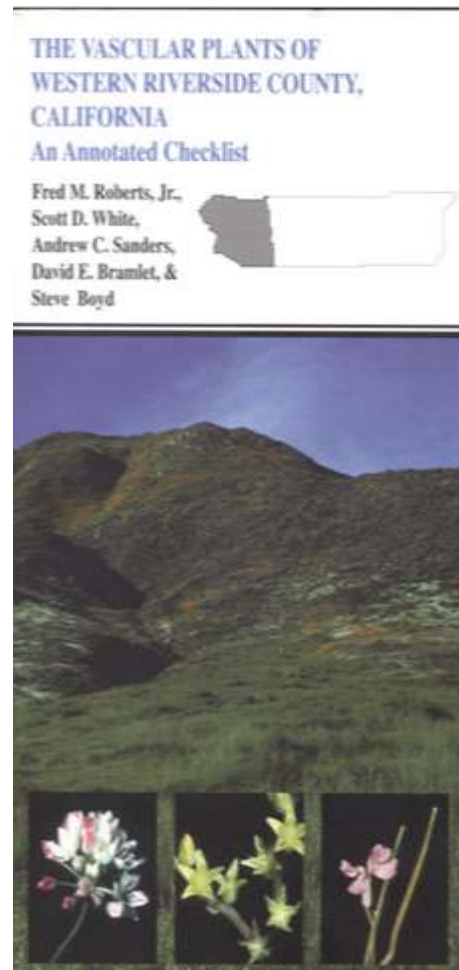
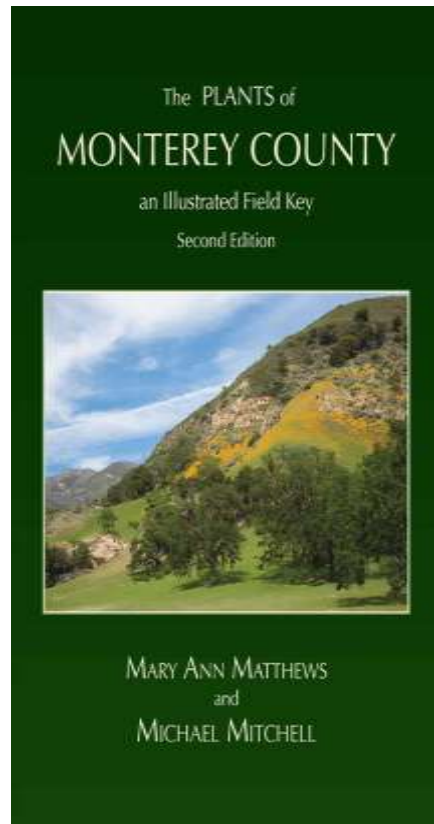
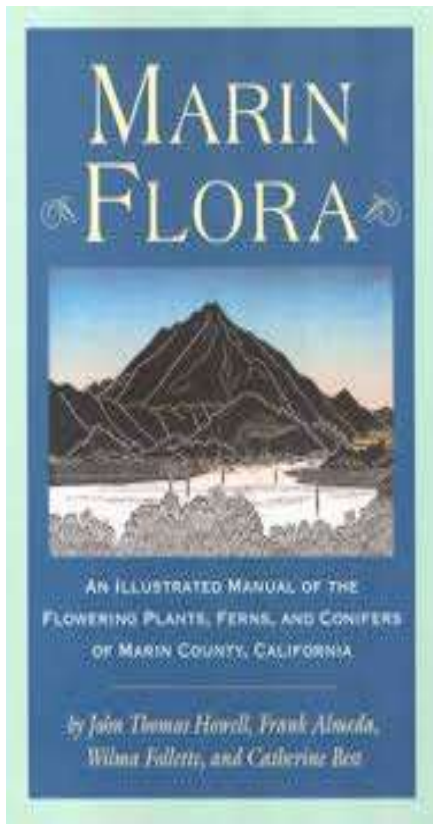
- **date of photo** Jun 1, 1982
- **location** California, US
- **family** [Asteraceae](#)
- **CalAcademy slide #** TT 36727
- **photo category:** Plant - annual/perennial

### MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS PLANT

- **common names** Yellow Star-thistle (CF, ITIS ) Yellow Star Thistle (photographer)
- [Look for Jepson Manual treatments, maps](#) (University & Jepson Herbaria)
- [View Calflora record](#) for *Centaurea solstitialis*
- [Check the Plants Database](#) (USDA website)
- [View Encyclopedia of Life record](#) for *Centaurea solstitialis*
- [View all photos in CalPhotos](#) of *Centaurea solstitialis*
- [Check Google Images](#) for *Centaurea solstitialis*

The photographer's identification *Centaurea solstitialis* has not been reviewed. [Click here](#) to review or comment on the identification.

# Locality



# Calflora.org – What Grows Here?

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <http://www.calflora.org/entry/wgh.html#arch=6&fm=photo&mma=tblg=33.82760&cc=-116.56378&z=13>. The page title is "Calflora What Grows Here".

**Criteria:**

- Low water tolerant
- Riparian
- Shade tolerant
- Commercially available

**SEARCH**

**RESULTS**    **AREA**

**PLANT NAMES**    **POINTS**

**PLANT FILTER**

**Grasslike**    41

**41 PLANTS**    Click on record count to display points.

**Acrachne racemosa**    Goosegrass

1 record (1 CCH)

non-native

Annual grass

POACEAE

---

**Agrostis exarata**    Bentgrass

1 record (1 CCH)

native

Perennial grass

POACEAE

2008 Hair Mouse    2008 Hair Mouse    2008 Hair Mouse

**MAP**    **TOOLS**    Steve Schoenig    EDIT - LOGOUT

**Riverside Co.**    **LAYERS**

Map    Satellite

Palm Springs, CA

33.82360, -116.54427

Map data ©2012 Google    1 km    Terms of Use    Report a map error

6:45 PM    10/23/2017



# California Consortium of Herbaria - ucjeps.berkeley.edu/consortium/

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

Plant ID Help - California UC/JEPS: Consortium Search

ucjeps.berkeley.edu/cgi-bin/get\_consorpt

33.77 33.85 -116.59 -116.49

**Consortium of California Herbaria**  
Participants News Search About Help Donate

**Search Results** – 3146 specimen records retrieved (3146 records with coordinates)  
Results for search: Return specimens with coords in &lat\_min=33.77&lat\_max=33.85&long\_min=-116.59&long\_max=-116.49;

**Mapping Options:**  
[BerkeleyMapper with county and bioregion layers](#)  
[BerkeleyMapper without layers](#)  
[KML export](#)  
 (Note: only records with coordinates are mappable)

**Download Options:**  
[Select all records](#) · [Select records with coordinates](#)  
  
 Include annotations and voucher information  
 (Note: contact Jason Alexander, [jason\\_alexander@berkeley.edu](mailto:jason_alexander@berkeley.edu), for large data requests.)

Please cite data retrieved from this page: Data provided by the participants of the Consortium of California Herbaria (ucjeps.berkeley.edu/consortium/).  
 Records are made available under the [CCH Data Use Terms](#).

**Toggle Display Mark Layers**  
 Click on column header to sort data (\* sorts by family); click in leftmost checkbox to select record. [CCH Help Page](#).  
 Turn on **yellow flags** to show possible range discrepancies. [Read more ...](#)

?	Specimen ID	Determination *	Collector	Collection Date	Collection Number	County	Locality	Elevation in meters	Feedback
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">GH37256</a>	<i>Abronia aurita</i>	S. B. Parish	1896-04-04	4138	Unknown	Palm Springs, (Agua Caliente), desert base of San Jacinto Mountain, alt. 500-700 feet	152	<a href="#">Comment</a> <a href="#">Read comments Oct 3 2017</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">NY341986</a>	<i>Abronia aurita</i>	S. B. Parish	04 04 1896	4138	Riverside	Palm Springs (Agua Caliente) desert base of San Jacinto Mountain	152.4	<a href="#">Comment</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">CDA23833</a>	<i>Abronia pogonantha</i>	M. S. Wasbauer	3 26 1960		Riverside	Palm Springs.		<a href="#">Comment</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">CAS-BOT-BC229311</a>	<i>Abronia villosa</i>	Marcus E. Jones	May 10 1903	s.n.	Riverside	Palm Spring	60	<a href="#">Comment</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">CAS-BOT-BC229312</a>	<i>Abronia villosa</i>	Mrs. J. C. Angsbury	Jan. 1926	s.n.	Riverside	Palm Springs		<a href="#">Comment</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">CAS-BOT-20000000</a>	<i>Abronia villosa</i>	Ynez Whitton Webblad	Feb. 15, 1937	s.n.	Riverside	Near Palm Springs		<a href="#">Comment</a>

ucjeps.berkeley.edu/detail\_help.html

6:14 PM 10/21/2017

# Crowd Sourcing





# California Native Plant Society

Public Group

Discussion

Members

Events

Videos

Photos

Files

Recommendations



Cover Photo

Linked Group · California Native Plant Society

Joined Notifications Share

Search this group

Write Post Add Photo/Video Live Video More

Write something...

Photo/Video Poll Feeling/Activity

LINKED GROUP BY



**California Native Plant Society**  
Environmental Conservation Organization  
19,583 like this

ADD MEMBERS  
Enter name or email address...

MEMBERS 22,590 Members (27 new)



PINNED POST



**Stacey Flowerdew**  
Admin · February 9, 2015

Hi Everyone,



# California Native Plant Society

Public Group

Discussion

Members

Events

Videos

Photos

Files

Recommendations

Search this group



Shortcuts

California Invasive ... 13

...live, but not the top.

Like · Reply · 1 · 22 hrs



Write a comment...



**Gurcharan Singh**

22 hrs

Please help with ID. trailing legume with trifoliate leaves, pink flowers mostly solitary in leaf axils and cylindrical pod 3-4 cm long. Tahoe along pathways, August 6, 2017.



## Suggested Pages

See All



**Steward Open Space**

Community · 162 likes

Like Page

English (US) · Español ·

Português (Brasil) · Français (France) ·

Deutsch



Privacy · Terms · Advertising · Ad Choices

Cookies · More

Facebook © 2017



Like Comment Share

8



**Joaquin Hale** Acmispon.

Like · Reply · 22 hrs



**Dean Wm Taylor** A. americanus

Like · Reply · 2 · 22 hrs



**Joaquin Hale** probably this one. [http://www.calflora.org/cgi-bin/species\\_query.cgi...](http://www.calflora.org/cgi-bin/species_query.cgi...)



Calflora: *Acmispon americanus*

CALFLORA.ORG

Like · Reply · 22 hrs



**Gurcharan Singh** I think yes, thanks a lot Joaquin Hale and Dean Wm Taylor.

Like · Reply · 2 · 22 hrs



Write a comment...



# California Invasive Plants

Public Group

Discussion

Members

Events

Videos

Photos

Files

Search this group

Shortcuts

California Invasive Plants



Joined Notifications Share

Start Discussion Sell Something Live Video More

Write something...

Photo/Video Poll Feeling/Activity

PINNED POST



**Barbara Kossy**

Admin May 16, 2016 · Moss Beach

Is it a weedy invasive plant? What to do?

Here we share information on invasive plants and how to deal with them, and share best management practices. What works for you? What are your challenges? Please share photos, best techniques, plant IDs and ID questions, and weed management events and articles.

I believe that in some management situations using herbicides is a

ADD MEMBERS

Enter name or email address

MEMBERS

1,506 Members (13 new)



SUGGESTED MEMBERS

Hide



Nancy Reese

Add Member



William Settle

Add Member



Roxanne Bittman

Add Member

See More

DESCRIPTION

Are you wondering if the plant you've found is a weedy invasive?... See More



Calflora

information on wild California plants for conservation, education, and appreciation

Steve Schoenig

EDIT - LOGOUT

www.calflora.org/entry/plantID.html

Calflora PLANT ID HELP

**Question:**

I have some photos of a plant, and I need help identifying the plant.

**Answer:**

Add an observation record to Calflora with your photos attached, and put this observation into the **PLANT ID HELP** group. Other people in this group may be able to help identify the plant.

**1. Register as a contributor.**

If you are already registered as a contributor, press **LOGIN-REGISTER** in the upper right and login to your account.

Otherwise, press **LOGIN-REGISTER** in the upper right, and register as a contributor.

**2. Join the PLANT ID HELP group.**

**3. Add an observation with one or more photos attached.**

Use the [Plant Observation Entry](#) application (POE) to add your photo(s) and the location.

Here are [specific instructions](#) for adding a record.

If your photo is already on the web, you can simply paste in the URL. If your photo is on your computer, you can upload it.

If you have a hypothesis as to what the plant is, for instance the genus, enter it into the **Scientific Name** field. Otherwise, enter **unknown**.

**4. Put your observation into the PLANT ID HELP group.**

In [POE](#), select **PLANT ID HELP** from the **Organization** drop down.

# Calflora Plant Observation Entry

TOOLS ▾

Steve Schoenig EDIT - LOGOUT

## Adding a new record

Organization: **PLANT ID HELP** ▾ Project: **any** ▾

Access by others: **published** ▾ History: **none**

Shape: **none** Point Location: **none**

## SIMPLE DATA COLLECTION

Scientific Name \*  Common Name

Observer \* **Steve Schoenig** Observation Date \* **2017-10-21**

Notes

Location Description

Number of Plants **choose** ▾

Photos: none  
Add a photo ▸

Management Status **none** ▾ Natural Status **WILD** ▾

Region  Collection / Survey

Map Layers ▾

Map Satellite

Google

Map data ©2017 Google, INEGI 50 km

36.56250, -120.06250

# iNaturalist - www.inaturalist.org

The image shows a browser window displaying the iNaturalist website. The browser's address bar shows the URL <https://www.inaturalist.org>. The page layout includes a navigation bar with the iNaturalist logo, a main content area with a 'Contribute to Science' banner, and a central section titled 'Nature At Your Fingertips' containing six activity cards. The 'Crowdsource Identifications' card is highlighted with a blue circle. At the bottom, there is a 'Works On All Your Devices' section. The browser window also shows several open tabs: 'Plant ID Help - California', 'Group Home - California', 'Observation Entry - California', and 'A Community for Naturalists'.

## Contribute to Science

Every observation can contribute to biodiversity science, from the rarest butterfly to the most common backyard weed. We share your findings with scientific data repositories like the [Global Biodiversity Information Facility](#) to help scientists find and use your data. All you have to do is observe.

## Nature At Your Fingertips

- Keep Track**  
Record your encounters with other organisms and share the data.
- Create Useful Data**  
Help scientists and resource managers understand when and where organisms occur.
- Crowdsource Identifications**  
Connect with experts who can identify the organisms you observe.
- Become a Citizen Scientist**  
Find a project with a mission that interests you, or start your own.
- Learn About Nature**  
Build your knowledge by talking with other naturalists and helping others.
- Run a Bioblitz**  
Hold an event where people try to find as many species as possible.

## Works On All Your Devices

Install our mobile apps so you can always observe, even without cell reception or wifi.

Record your observations

<https://www.inaturalist.org/#hero-carousel>

# Ask an Expert





**Dr. Genevieve Walden**

**Senior Plant Taxonomist**

*Plant Pest Diagnostics Branch, California Department of Food & Agriculture  
3294 Meadowview Road, Sacramento, CA 95832-1448, U.S.A.  
916-262-1150 office, 916-262-1190 fax, [genevieve.walden@cdfa.ca.gov](mailto:genevieve.walden@cdfa.ca.gov)*

# CA Food and Ag Botany Lab

Often no charge if submitted through your Agricultural Commissioner's Office. The Ag Commissioner can often ID local noxious weeds.[-0.



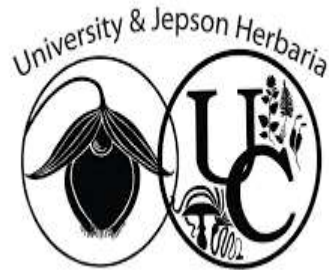
## Botany SERVICE SAMPLE FEE SCHEDULE

Effective November 14, 2016

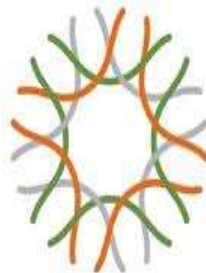
BOTANY METHODS	PRICE
<b>MORPHOLOGY</b>	
Morphological inspection or identification, per sample	\$17.50/quarter hour
<b>CONVENTIONAL PCR</b>	
Conventional PCR processing, per sample (maximum)	\$52.50
Conventional PCR, per sample	\$20.00
<b>DNA SEQUENCING</b>	
DNA sequence and analysis, per assembled sequence	\$43.00
<b>SCANNING ELECTRON MICROSCOPY</b>	
SEM, processing, per sample (maximum)	\$35.50
SEM, per sample	\$19.00

An Administrative Fee of \$17.50 (covering one quarter hour) will be charged per sample, or per group of

# UC and other herbaria



UC herbaria can be no charge if submitted through your UC Cooperative Extension Office. The Extension Office can often ID local weeds.

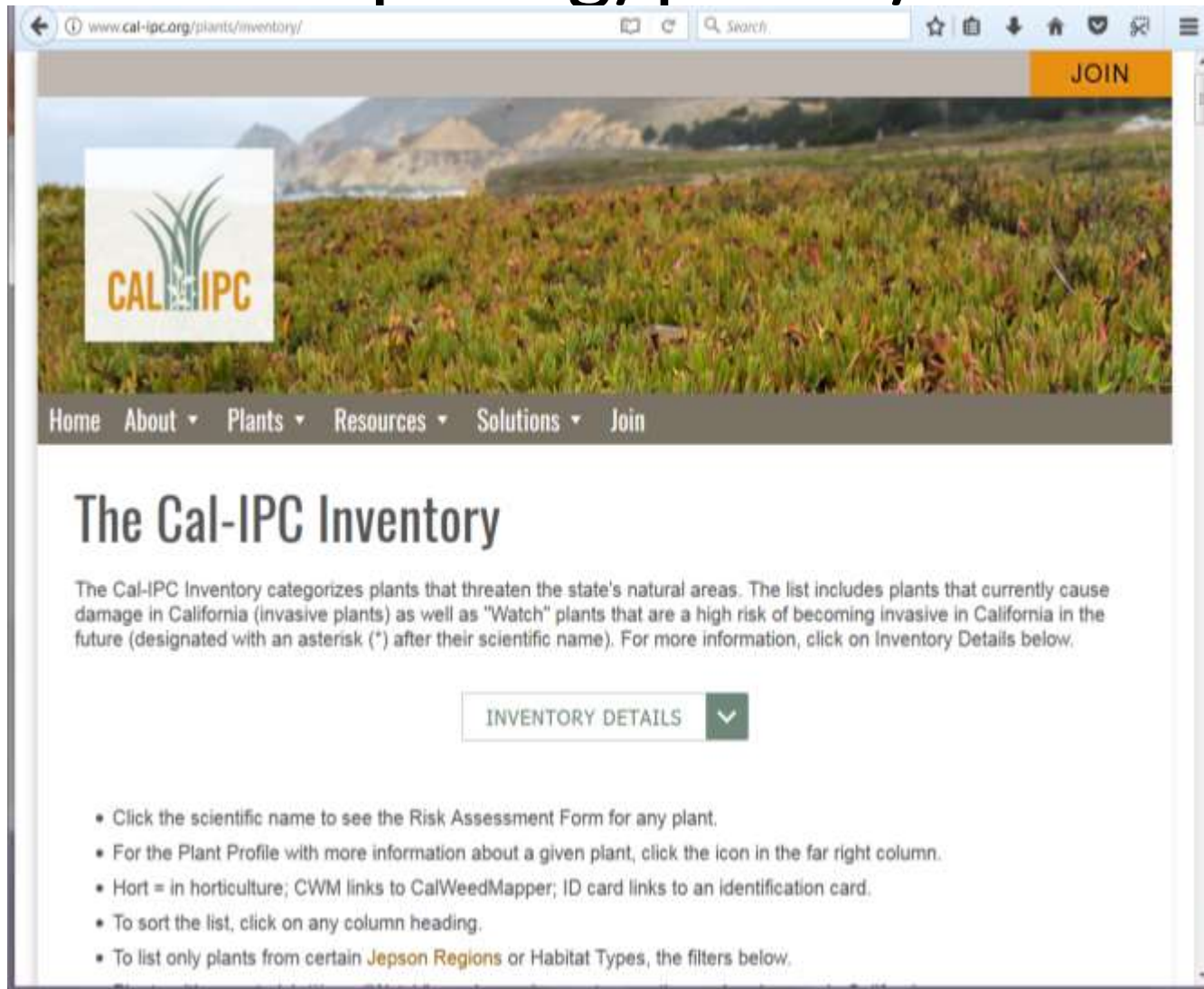


CALIFORNIA  
ACADEMY OF  
SCIENCES



# Cal-IPC Inventory

[www.cal-ipc.org/plants/inventory/](http://www.cal-ipc.org/plants/inventory/)



www.cal-ipc.org/plants/inventory/

JOIN

Home About ▾ Plants ▾ Resources ▾ Solutions ▾ Join

## The Cal-IPC Inventory

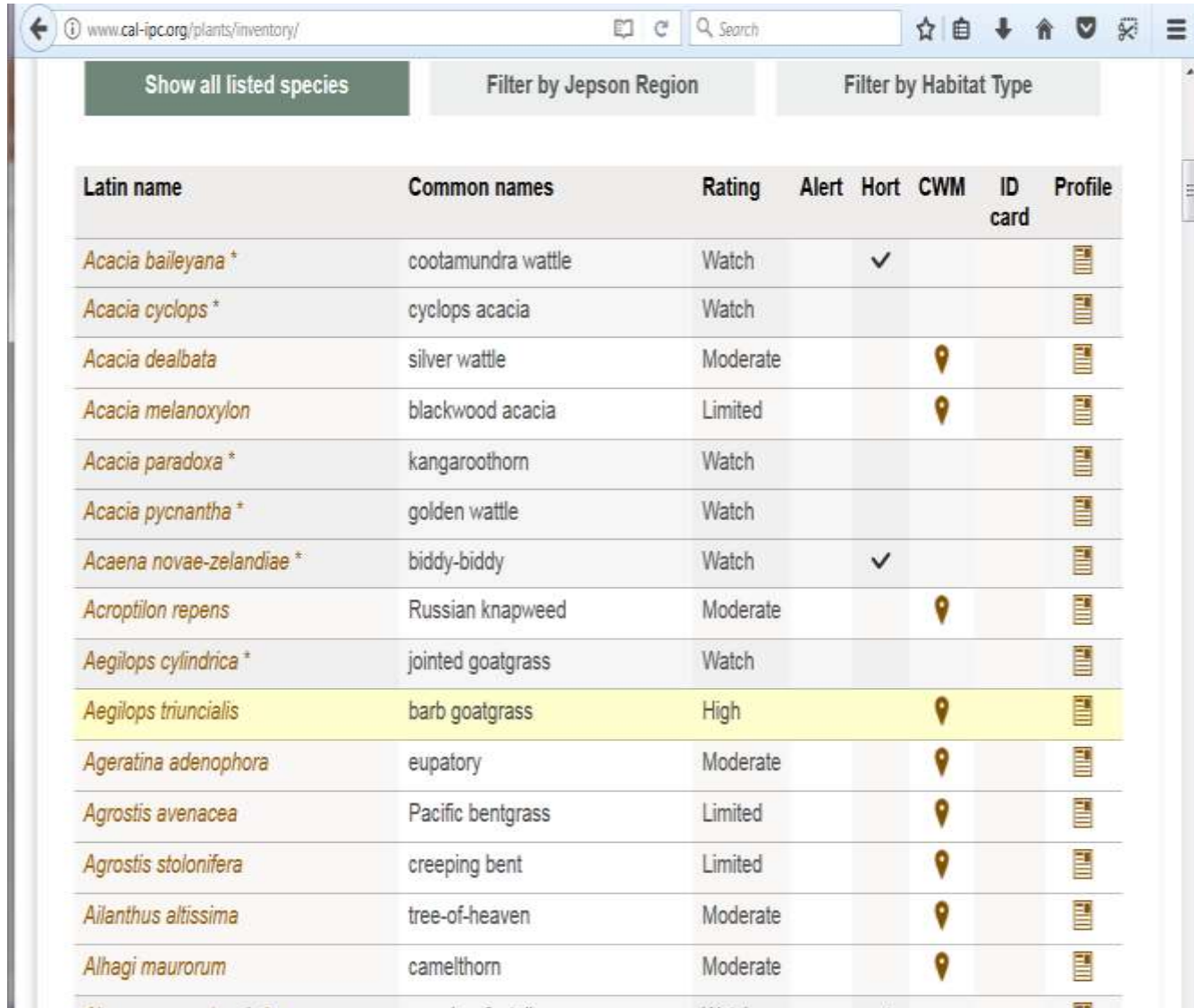
The Cal-IPC Inventory categorizes plants that threaten the state's natural areas. The list includes plants that currently cause damage in California (invasive plants) as well as "Watch" plants that are a high risk of becoming invasive in California in the future (designated with an asterisk (\*) after their scientific name). For more information, click on Inventory Details below.

INVENTORY DETAILS ▾

- Click the scientific name to see the Risk Assessment Form for any plant.
- For the Plant Profile with more information about a given plant, click the icon in the far right column.
- Hort = in horticulture; CWM links to CalWeedMapper; ID card links to an identification card.
- To sort the list, click on any column heading.
- To list only plants from certain **Jepson Regions** or Habitat Types, the filters below.

# Cal-IPC Inventory

[www.cal-ipc.org/plants/inventory](http://www.cal-ipc.org/plants/inventory)



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL [www.cal-ipc.org/plants/inventory/](http://www.cal-ipc.org/plants/inventory/). The page has three filter buttons: "Show all listed species" (active), "Filter by Jepson Region", and "Filter by Habitat Type". Below the filters is a table of plant species. The table has the following columns: Latin name, Common names, Rating, Alert, Hort, CWM, ID card, and Profile card. The row for *Aegilops triuncialis* is highlighted in yellow.

Latin name	Common names	Rating	Alert	Hort	CWM	ID card	Profile card
<i>Acacia baileyana</i> *	cootamundra wattle	Watch		✓			
<i>Acacia cyclops</i> *	cyclops acacia	Watch					
<i>Acacia dealbata</i>	silver wattle	Moderate			📍		
<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	blackwood acacia	Limited			📍		
<i>Acacia paradoxa</i> *	kangaroothorn	Watch					
<i>Acacia pycnantha</i> *	golden wattle	Watch					
<i>Acaena novae-zelandiae</i> *	biddy-biddy	Watch		✓			
<i>Acroptilon repens</i>	Russian knapweed	Moderate			📍		
<i>Aegilops cylindrica</i> *	jointed goatgrass	Watch					
<i>Aegilops triuncialis</i>	barb goatgrass	High			📍		
<i>Ageratina adenophora</i>	eupatory	Moderate			📍		
<i>Agrostis avenacea</i>	Pacific bentgrass	Limited			📍		
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	creeping bent	Limited			📍		
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	tree-of-heaven	Moderate			📍		
<i>Alhagi maurorum</i>	camelthorn	Moderate			📍		

# Cal-IPC Inventory

## www.cal-ipc.org/plants/inventory

### Plant Assessment Form

#### *Ailanthus altissima*

Synonyms: *A. glandulosa* Desf.

Common Names: tree-of-heaven; Chinese sumac; paradise-tree; copal-tree

Evaluated on: 5/5/03

List committee review date: 04/09/2003

Re-evaluation date:

More *Ailanthus altissima* resources

[Plant profile](#)

[CalWeedMapper](#)

#### Evaluator(s)

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# Cal-IPC Inventory

[www.cal-ipc.org/plants/inventory](http://www.cal-ipc.org/plants/inventory)

Table 2. Criteria, Section, and Overall Scores


	Overall Score	Alert Status	Documentation
	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>No Alert</b>	<b>3 out of 5</b>
	Score	Documentation	
1.1 Impact on abiotic ecosystem processes	C	Reviewed Scientific Publication	<b>Impact</b> Four-part score <b>CAUD</b> Total Score <b>B</b>
1.2 Impact on plant community	A. Severe	Reviewed Scientific Publication	
1.3 Impact on higher trophic levels	U. Unknown		
1.4 Impact on genetic integrity	D. None	Other Published Material	
2.1 Role of anthropogenic and natural disturbance in establishment	A. Severe	Reviewed Scientific Publication	<b>Invasiveness</b> Total Points <b>16</b> Total Score <b>B</b>
2.2 Local rate of spread with no management	A. Increases rapidly	Other Published Material	
2.3 Recent trend in total area infested within state	A. Increasing rapidly	Other Published Material	
2.4 Innate reproductive potential (see Worksheet A)	B. Moderate	Other Published Material	
2.5 Potential for human-caused dispersal	B. Moderate	Other Published Material	
2.6 Potential for natural long-distance dispersal	B. Occasional	Other Published Material	
2.7 Other regions invaded	C. Already invaded	Other Published Material	
3.1 Ecological amplitude/Range (see Worksheet C)	A. Widespread	Other Published Material	<b>Distribution</b> Total Score <b>B</b>
3.2 Distribution/Peak frequency (see Worksheet C)	C. Low	Other Published Material	

Table 3. Documentation


Scores are explained in the "Criteria for Categorizing Invasive Non-Native Plants that Threaten Wildlands".

wric.ucdavis.edu/information/weedid.htm

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA-DAVIS CAMPUS PEOPLE



# Weed Research & Information Center



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA • COOPERATIVE EXTENSION & AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

[Home](#)

[Weed ID Tool](#)

[Weed Selector Tool](#)

**Weed Identification Tool**      Search location:

**Step 1:** Select the type of weed you are trying to identify. You may change your choice of weed type, or restart the ID process at any time.

**BROADLEAF:**  
These herbaceous (non-woody) plants typically produce noticeable flowers. Leaves are often broad with netted veins, but they may also be narrow and veinless.

**GRASSLIKE:**  
These herbaceous (non-woody) plants lack noticeable flowers. The leaves are ribbon-like with parallel veins, and are often tightly rolled.

**WOODY:**  
Trees, shrubs, and sub-shrubs with obvious woody stems that persist year after year.

<http://weedid.wisc.edu/ca/weedid.php>