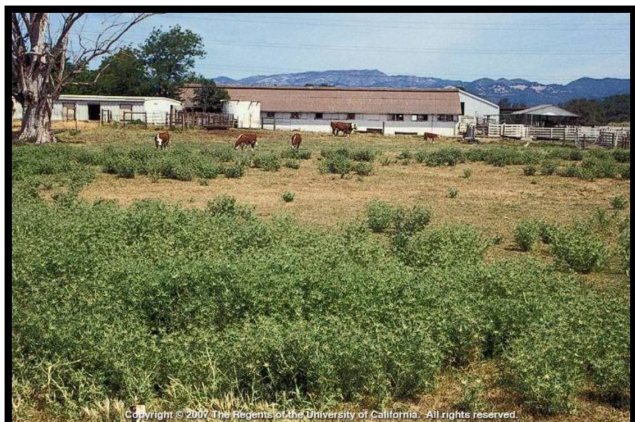


# Weed Alert!

## Purple starthistle



# Purple starthistle

(*Centaurus calcitrapa*)

**Mature Size** Knee



## Description

- 2-3 ft. plant with spiny purple-pink flowerheads
- Urn-shaped flower is ½-1 in. wide at the end of stems
- Base of flower is ringed with 1 in. long, rigid, straw-colored spines
- Grows as a low rosette of leaves in the first year
- Lower leaves deeply divided
- Highly branched green stems and leaves covered with fine hairs
- Seeds do **not** have a plume of bristles
- Stems are **not** winged
- Reproduces by seed and vegetatively by resprouting from the crown when damaged
- Spread by wildlife, livestock, hay, forage, equipment
- Native to southern Europe



**Bloom Period** Jul - Oct

**Habitat** Chaparral, coastal prairie, grasslands

**2-Minute Removal** Dig

