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The illustrated weeds are on the weed identification list of the Illinois Association of Vocational Agriculture Teachers Crop Career Development Event.

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Barnyardgrass
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Black nightshade
Broadleaf plantain
Buckhorn plantain

Bull thistle Burdock

Canada thistle
Carpetweed

Cheat Chicory Cocklebur

Common chickweed
Common mallow
Common milkweed

Common ragweed

Curled dock
Daisy fleabane
Dandelion

Fall panicum

Field pennycress

Flower-of-an-hour

Foxtail barley
Giant foxtail
Giant ragweed
Goosegrass

Green foxtail

Hedge bindweed
Hemp dogbane
Hemp (Marijuana)

Honeyvine milkweed Horsenettle

Horseweed (Marestail)

Ivvleaf morningglory

<u>Jimsonweed</u> <u>Johnsongrass</u>

Kochia

Ladysthumb smartweed

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Pigweeds (Redroot, Smooth)

Prickly sida

Purslane

Quackgrass Red sorrel

<u>Shattercane</u>

Stinkgrass

Tall morningglory

Velvetleaf
Waterhemp
Wild carrot
Wild garlic

Wild garlic
Wild mustard
Wild parsnip
Wild sunflower
Woolly cupgrass

Yarrow

Yellow foxtail
Yellow nutsedge
Yellow rocket

Yellow woodsorrel

QUIT







Barnyardgrass







Bitter nightshade









Black nightshade









Broadleaf plantain







Buckhorn plantain





Bull thistle







Burdock







Canada thistle









Carpetweed





Cheat





Chicory



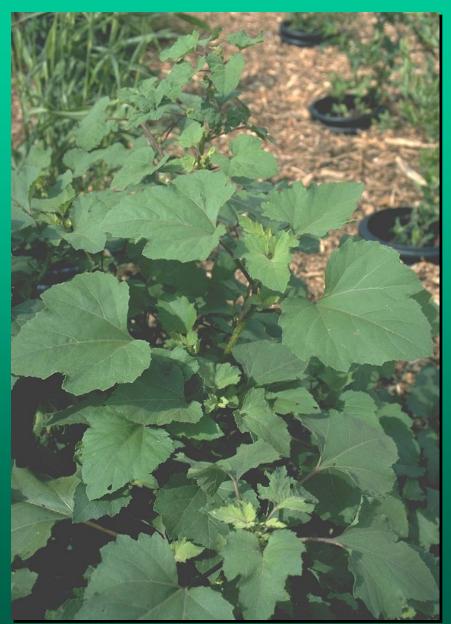




Cocklebur







Common chickweed





Common mallow





Common milkweed



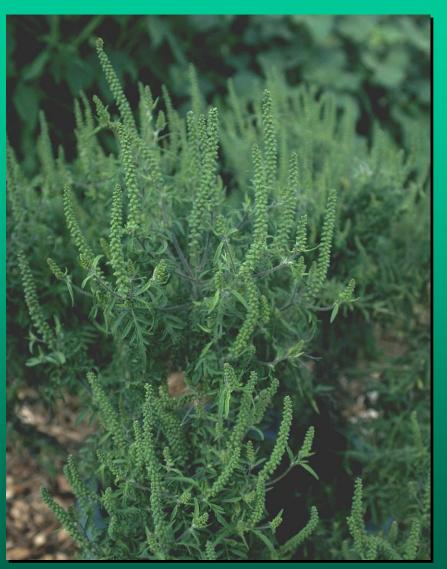




Common ragweed







Curled dock







Daisy fleabane





Dandelion





Fall panicum







Field pennycress







Flower-of-an-hour







Foxtail barley







Giant foxtail



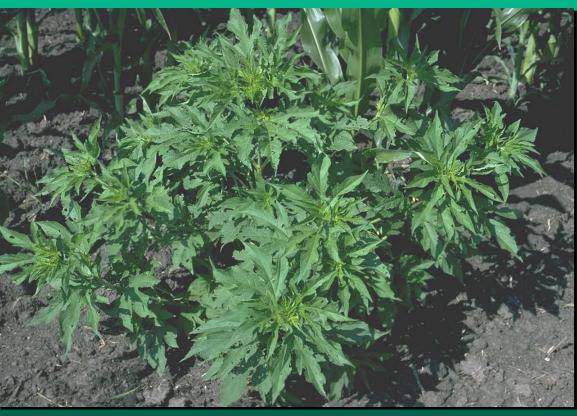




Giant ragweed







Goosegrass







Green foxtail







Hedge bindweed





Hemp dogbane







Hemp (Marijuana)





Honeyvine milkweed

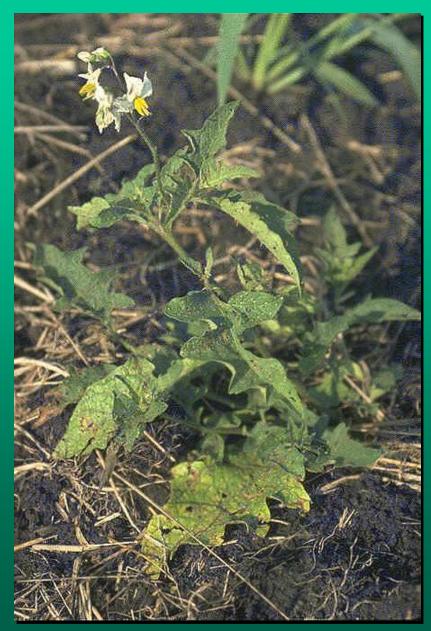






Horsenettle







lvyleaf morningglory







Horseweed (Marestail)











Johnsongrass







Kochia







Ladysthumb smartweed





Lambsquarters







Large crabgrass







Musk thistle







Peppergrass





Pigweeds (Redroot, Smooth)

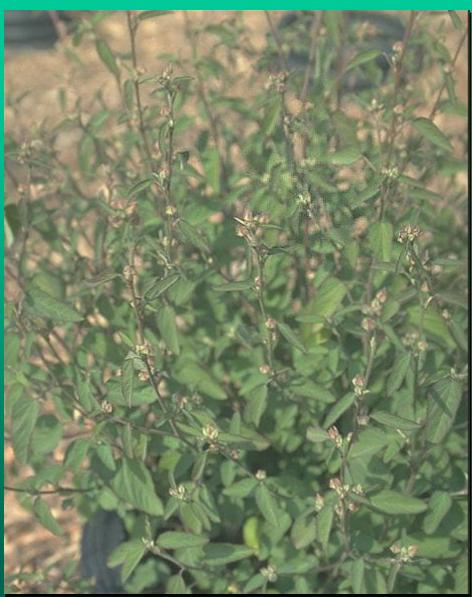






Prickly sida





Purslane





Quackgrass







Red sorrel







Shattercane







Stinkgrass







Tall morningglory







Velvetleaf

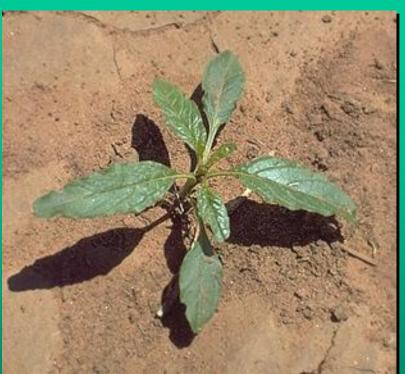




Waiterhemp







Wild carrot





Wild garlic









Wild mustard



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Wild sunflower





Woolly supgrass

















Yellow foxtail





Yellow nutsedge





Yellow rocket





Yellow woodsorrel











Barnyardgrass
Annual grass, reproducing by seed

Ligule is absent

Sheaths are flattened; smooth; purple-tinged base

Blades are smooth; finely veined











Bitter nightshade

Perennial, reproducing by seeds and rooting of prostrate stems

Leaves are dark green to purplish heart-shaped; 2 to 5 inches long, with one to several basal lobes or leaflets; alternate with medium length petioles

Stems are slender; vinelike; mildly woody; prostrate or twining on low vegetation; two to 10 feet long

Flowers are purple; star-shaped with prominent yellow or orange anthers; produce bright red berries containing many round, flattened seeds; toxic









Black nightshade
Annual, reproducing by seed

Leaves are alternate; ovate to oval with pointed tip; wavy-toothed margins; smooth to sparsely hairy above; purple-tinged on bottom surface

Petioles are sparsely hairy; reddish to purple

Stems are branching; weak; mostly smooth to slightly hairy





Broadleaf plantain
Perennial, reproducing by seed

Leaves are basal; ovate; 3 to 7 inches long with wavy margins narrowing abruptly to petiole with several veins running length of leaf

Flowers are small and inconspicuous, forming on a dense, elongated spike inflorescence; located at the end of a stem 5 to 15 inches long







Buckhorn plantain

Perennial reproducing

Perennial, reproducing by seed

Leaves are basal; long ovate or lanceolate; 4 to 12 inches long with several veins running length of leaf

Flowers form on a dense, cylindrical spike at the end of erect, leafless stems 4 to 10 inches long







Bull thistle *Biennial, reproducing by seed*

Leaves have spines on lobes of leaves; are densely hairy; after stem elongates, leaf bases run down stem

Stems do not elongate the first year; thereafter, 3 to 5 feet tall; branched; somewhat hairy with spines







Burdock *Biennial, reproducing by seed only*

Leaves are large, heart-shaped, hairy in basal crown the first year and alternate on erect coarse stem; 3 to 10 feet tall the second year

Flowers are purple-red disc flowers surrounded by hooked bracts which later form a burr about ½ inch in diameter



Canada thistle
Perennial, spreading by seeds and rhizomes

Leaves are alternate; clasping; thick with bristly hairs on upper and lower surfaces; margins slightly lobed and wavy with each lobe ending in a sharp spine

Petioles are absent

Stems are hollow; grooved; branching at top becoming increasingly hairy

Root system extends several feet deep and horizontally; frequent new shoots; fleshy





Carpetweed *Annual, reproducing by seed only*

Leaves are small; dark green; lanceolate; widest near apex, laying flat; 5 or 6 each in a circle radiating from stem joints

Stems prostrate; mat-forming; radiating from root crown; not rooting at nodes

Flowers very small; white; five petaled in clusters of two to five on stalks from leaf axils





Cheat (also known as chess)

Annual or winter annual, reproducing by seed

Leaves are 1/8 to 1/4 inch wide; sparsely hairy on stems 10 to 30 inches tall

Flowers are borne in a panicle inflorescence; seeds bear short (1/8 to 1/4 inch) beard or none at all







Chicory *Perennial, reproducing by seed*

Leaves are oblanceolate; toothed or pinnately parted, with short petioles along branches and forming rosette at base; upper leaves become reduced, sessile, and often entire

Stems are smooth; erect; branched; 1 to 6 feet tall

Flowers are bright blue or purple, sometimes white; ray flowers 1 to 1 1/2 inches across; located at branch ends or axils of much-reduced upper leaves







Cocklebur

Annual, reproducing by seed

Leaves -- first pair opposite, later alternate; rough; triangular in shape, with irregularly toothed margins

Petioles are long; hairy; purplish

Stems are rough-hairy; ridged; spotted





Common chickweed

Annual or winter annual, reproducing by seed or creeping stems which root at nodes

Leaves are small; 1 to 1 1/2 inches long; opposite; petioled; upper leaves lack petioles; broadly ovate; smooth; pointed at tips

Stems are creeping or ascending; branched; low and spreading 4 to 12 inches high

Flowers are white with five deeply notched petals





Common mallow

Annual or biennial, reproducing by seed

Leaves are long-petioled; rounded; 3/4 to 3 1/2 inches across with heart-shaped base; toothed or slightly lobed

Stems are spreading, semi-erect

Flowers are small; white to lavender; with 5 petals producing a button-like fruit







Common milkweed *Perennial, spreading by seeds and rhizomes*

Leaves are opposite; thick; elliptical; entire margins with pointed tip; prominent, whitish midvein; lower surface covered with short, white hairs

Petioles are extended partially around stem to form a ridge

Stems are covered with short, downy hairs; exude milky juice when broken; usually no branching

Root system is coarse; wide-spreading







Common ragweed

Annual, reproducing by seed

Leaves are opposite at base of plant, alternate above; hairy; deeply and irregularly lobed giving a lacy appearance

Petioles are hairy; grooved; widen into a V-shape at the stem

Stems are usually much branched and densely hairy







Curled dock *Perennial, reproducing by seed*

Leaves mostly basal; short-petioled; lanceolate; 6 to 12 inches long with wavy or curly margins

Stems are smooth; erect; 1 to 4 feet tall single or in groups from root crown

Flowers are small; appearing in dense spike-like terminal or axillary clusters; lacking petals; turning reddish-brown at maturity





Daisy fleabane (also known as rough fleabane)

Annual, winter annual or biennial, reproducing by seeds

True leaves variable; lower leaves ovate; upper leaves lanceolate; often tapering to form somewhat winged petiole

Stems 1 to 3 feet tall; hairy; clustered; branching at upper part

Flowers ½ to 1 inch across; white to lavender ray petals surrounding a yellow disc





Dandelion *Perennial, reproducing from seed*

Leaves are dark green; deeply lobed; elongated; 3 to 10 inches long forming rosette from root crown

Stems are lacking

Flowers are bright yellow ray flowers; 1 to 2 inches across; borne atop elongated, hollow stalks 1 to 24 inches tall







Fall panicum

Annual grass, reproducing by seed

Ligule has a fringe of hairs

Sheaths are smooth to hairy at first near soil surface; later smooth with membranous margins; slightly purplish near base

Blades are hairy on the underside at first, later smooth; dull above and glossy below; prominent midvein







Field pennycress

Annual or winter annual, reproducing by seed

Leaves are alternate; simple; toothed; may lack petioles

Stems are erect; 4 to 20 inches long; smooth; simple or branching above

Flowers are small, white, with 4 petals forming at the ends of the branches in racemes which lengthen greatly at maturity; seed pod is flat, circular, deeply notched at the top; each pod contains several seeds







Flower-of-an-hour

Annual, reproducing by seed

Leaves are alternate; first two leaves toothed; subsequent leaves deeply lobed with few hairs on upper leaf surface and densely hairy on lower leaf surface

Petioles are moderate in length; hairy

Leaves are hairy; much branched







Foxtail barley (Squirreltail is a very common related grass with very similar characteristics) *Perennial, reproducing by seed*

Leaves alternate; smooth sheaths; blades 1/8 to 1/4 inch wide; rough upper surface

Stems erect 1 to 2 feet in height

Flowers borne in a spike inflorescence 2 to 5 inches long; nodding with soft yellow-green or purplish bristles about 2 inches long







Giant foxtail

Annual, reproducing by seed

Ligule is a fringe of hairs

Sheaths are round to slightly flattened; sparsely hairy with hairy margins

Blades are short and densely hairy above; sparsely hairy to smooth below







Giant ragweed
Annual, reproducing by seed

Leaves are opposite; rough; hairy; deeply lobed with usually 3, sometimes 5 lobes; saw-toothed margins

Petioles are grooved; winged toward the stem; rough-hairy

Stems are coarse; rough; 4 to 12 feet in height







Goosegrass *Annual, reproducing by seed*

Leaves smooth and 3 to 12 inches long

Stems smooth; prostrate; sometimes upright six inches to two feet long; grows in tufts

Flowers are small on 3- to 5-inch spikes spreading finger-like from the top of stem; 3 to 6 spikes per stem







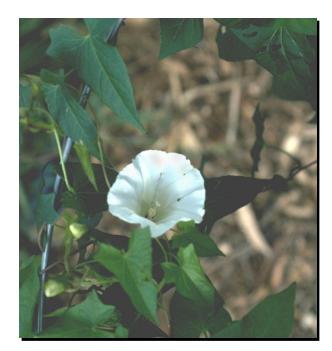
Green foxtail

Annual, reproducing by seed

Ligule is a fringe of hairs

Sheaths are round to slightly flattened; sparsely hairy to smooth with hairy margins; reddish base

Blades are mostly smooth above and below; rough margins; finely veined





Hedge bindweed *Perennial, spreading by seeds and rhizomes*

Leaves are alternate; larger than field bindweed; arrowhead-shaped, usually with pointed tip and large basal lobes

Petioles are long; smooth; indented in leaf

Stems are smooth; twining or trailing

Root system is extensive but relatively shallow







Hemp dogbane
Perennial, spreading by seeds and rhizomes

Leaves are opposite; entire; elliptical with a rounded wedge at the base and narrowing to blunt point at the tip; smaller than common milkweed

Petioles are short to nearly absent

Stems are smooth with reddish tinge; woody base; upper portion with ascending branches to give bushy appearance; exude milky juice when broken

Root system is extensive and deep, sending up new plants at intervals





Hemp (Marijuana)
Annual, reproducing by seed

Leaves are palmate with 5 to 9 leaflets deeply notched

Stems are 2 to 10 feet tall; coarse; somewhat grooved; rough and hairy; usually bushy unless crowded

Flowers are of two kinds—male and female, borne on separate plants, all flowers lack petals and are borne in clusters from the axils of the leaves; pollen-producing flowers are borne in the axils of the upper leaves; male plants decline after shedding pollen; female plants remain robust until frost







Honeyvine milkweed *Perennial, reproducing by seeds and rhizomes*

Leaves are opposite; smooth; oblong to heart-shaped with pointed tip; distinct venation

Petioles are long; covered with short hairs

Stems are smooth; slender; twining; without milky sap

Root system is extensive, succulent taproot; lateral rhizomes







Horsenettle *Perennial, spreading by seeds and rhizomes*

Leaves are alternate; with dense hairs; dark green on upper surface; later leaf midribs and petioles with spines; margins undulate to sparsely toothed

Petioles are short; hairy

Stems are green to purple; erect; dense hairs; usually crooked at nodes





Horseweed (Marestail)

Annual, reproducing by seed

Leaves -- first leaves alternate; entire, mostly smooth; later leaves becoming hairy; serrated margins; lanceolate

Petioles are short to moderate in length; clasping; hairy on upper surface

Stems stout; erect; 1 to 6 feet tall; unbranched at base







Ivyleaf morningglory
Annual, reproducing by seed

Leaves are alternate; hairy; 3-lobed and ivy-shaped

Petioles are long; hairy with reddish tint

Stems are hairy; twining or trailing on the ground





Jimsonweed *Annual, reproducing by seed*

Leaves are alternate; large; smooth; ovate with irregularly toothed edges; distinctive rank odor when crushed

Petioles are long; pale green to purple; may have short hairs

Stems are smooth; thick; branching widely on upper part







Johnsongrass *Perennial grass, reproducing by seed and large rhizomes*

Leaves are simple; smooth; alternate; 6 to 20 inches long; ½ to 1 1/2 inches wide

Stems are erect; stout; 1 1/2 to 6 feet tall

Flowers are borne in panicles that are large, purplish, and hairy





Kochia *Annual, reproducing by seed*

Leaves are alternate; simple; hairy; 1 to 2 inches long

Petioles -- none

Stems are smooth; green; branched; height variable up to 6 feet







Ladysthumb smartweed
Annual, reproducing by seed

Leaves are narrow; pointed; have smooth margins; usually with dark spot in the middle of the leaf; short petioles

Stems smooth; branched; sometimes hairy; often with clear membrane at leaf nodes

Flowers are pink or purplish in dense erect, terminal and axillary spikes







Lambsquarters
Annual, reproducing by seed

Leaves -- first two opposite, later alternate; ovate to triangular; smooth; usually white-mealy coated, especially on younger leaves; wavy-toothed margins

Petioles are short; round; sometimes red-tinged; covered with white-mealy particles

Stems are smooth; grooved, often with red or light green striations







Large crabgrass *Annual grass, reproducing by seed*

Ligule is membranous; medium; jagged margins

Sheaths are densely hairy; stems rooting at lower nodes

Blades are hairy; margins often wrinkled







Musk thistle *Biennial, reproducing by seed*

Leaves smooth; light colored; very spiny margins; after stem elongation, leaf margins extend down stem

Stems do not elongate in first year; thereafter, erect and spiny with spiny wings; 3 to 6 feet tall; lower portion branched





PeppergrassAnnual or winter annual, reproducing by seed

Leaves lanceolate to linear; coarsely toothed; usually lacking petioles

Stems branched; 6 to 18 inches high; hairless or with fine hairs

Flowers small, white, four-petaled; borne on racemes that bloom constantly so they may show flowers on top and seed pods below







Pigweeds (Redroot, Smooth)

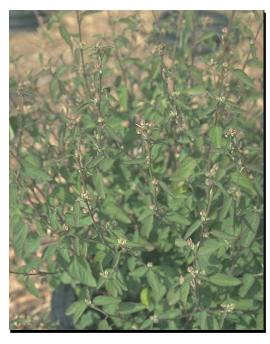
Annual, reproducing by seed

Leaves are alternate; ovate to oval, usually with a notched tip; prominently veined; leaf tissue between veins appearing puffy and rough; younger leaves pink-tinged on bottom surface; purplish midvein

Petioles are green to pink-tinged; long; grooved on upper surface with appressed hairs

Stems are rough; hairy; vertically ridged; branching widely if not crowded; pinkish, turning red below soil surface





Prickly sida *Annual, reproducing by seed*

Leaves alternate; oblong; sparsely hairy; saw-toothed margins; yellow-green

Petioles are long; covered with short, gland-tipped hairs

Stems are branching widely; softly hairy; bearing 2 to 3 short, blunt spiny projections below each node





Purslane *Annual, reproducing by seed*

Leaves are oblanceolate; fleshy; maroon on edges; opposite; smooth

Petioles are short; fleshy; flattened on upper surface

Stems are juicy; smooth; often reddish; prostrate and ascending toward ends







Quackgrass *Perennial, spreading by seeds and rhizomes*

Ligule is membranous; short

Sheaths have lower parts with short hairs; upper parts smooth

Blades are rough above; sparsely hairy to smooth below; constriction often showing near tip; auricles present--a slender, clawlike structure at the base of the blade and clasping the stem

Rhizomes are long; slender; sharp; white







Red sorrel *Perennial, spreading by seeds and creeping rhizomes*

Leaves arrow-shaped; 1 to 3 inches long; smooth; acid to taste

Stems 6 to 8 inches high; slender and upright; branched at tip

Flowers yellow to red; borne on raceme near top of plant; form 3-sided seeds







Shattercane *Annual grass, reproducing by seed*

Ligule is long; membranous; apical margin jagged with short hairs

Sheaths are smooth to rough with membranous margins

Blades are finely veined; smooth to sparsely hairy; vigorous growth; bigger than most annuals





Stinkgrass *Annual, reproducing by seed*

Sheaths smooth except for hairs on upper portion

Blades smooth; 1/16 to 5/16 inch wide; plant has disagreeable odor

Flowers borne in branched panicles with many spikelets 1/4 to 5/8 long









Tall morningglory *Annual, reproducing by seed*

Leaves are alternate; hairy; broadly heart-shaped with pointed tip

Petioles are long; hairy; dull green to reddish tint

Stems are hairy; twining or trailing on the ground





Velvetleaf *Annual, reproducing by seed*

Leaves are alternate; heart-shaped with pointed tip; large; fine-toothed margins; soft, velvety hairy surface

Petioles are round; covered with short, velvety hairs

Stems are covered with short, velvety hairs







Waterhemp
Annual, reproducing by seed

Leaves are more elongated than pigweed; no hairs on leaves; no notch on tip

Petioles are green to red; hairless; long

Stems are smooth and vertically ridged

Seed head is less compact and more branched than most pigweeds; the several species of waterhemp are difficult to distinguish





Wild carrot
Biennial, reproducing by seed

Leaves alternate; compound; finely pinnately divided; about 5 inches long

Stems erect; hairy; stout and branched at top

Flowers small, white, five petaled; located in umbels at ends of the branches







Wild garlicPerennial, reproducing from seed, aerial bulblets and underground bulbs

Leaves are slender; round; hollow; attached at the bottom half of the stem

Stems are 1 to 3 feet tall; smooth and waxy

Flowers are small, greenish-white; borne on short stems above aerial bulblets at top of stem





Wild mustard
Annual or winter annual, reproducing by seed

Leaves vary in length; 2 to 8 inches long; 1 to 4 inches wide, larger at bottom; lower leaves irregularly lobed, toothed, petioled, and with bristly hairs; upper leaves smaller, often not lobed, alternate, and with short or absent petioles

Stems erect; branched near top; with a few bristly hairs

Flowers bright yellow; four-petaled; clustered at ends of branches





Wild parsnip
Biennial, reproducing by seed

Leaves alternate; pinnately compound; have sawtoothed edges

Stems (second year) erect; hairy; grooved; 2 to 5 feet tall

Flowers small; yellow; five petaled; located in umbels at the top of stems and branches





Wild sunflower
Annual, reproducing by seed

Leaves are alternate; simple; hairy; saw-tooth margins

Petioles are short to moderate in length

Stems are erect; very hairy; 2 to 10 feet tall

Flowers are composed of yellow ray flowers surrounding brown or reddish-brown disk flowers; flower heads 1 to 5 inches in diameter









Woolly cupgrass
Annual grass, reproducing by seed

Ligule has a fringe of hairs

Sheaths are covered with very short, dense hairs

Leaves are covered with very short, dense hairs; one margin tends to be wrinkled

Inflorescences of several racemes; woolly with hairs; spikelets in two rows on one side of rachis







Yarrow *Perennial, reproducing by seeds and underground rhizomes*

Leaves soft; hairy; finely divided; fernlike

Stems 1 to 2 feet tall; branching at the top; covered with gray-green hairs; multiple stems may rise from each crown

Flowers borne as small, white ray flowers surrounding yellow disc flowers in flat-topped clusters at the ends of branches





Yellow foxtail *Annual grass, reproducing by seed*

Ligule is a fringe of hairs

Sheaths are flattened; smooth; purple to reddish base

Blades are smooth except for long hairs near ligule on upper surface

Stems erect; 1 to 2 feet tall





Yellow nutsedge *Perennial, reproducing by seeds and tubers*

Stems are erect; triangular in cross section

Leaves are 3-ranked; smooth and shiny; basal; greenish-yellow; triangle-shaped in cross section

Rhizomes are short with scales or ridges; tubers at ends

Seeds yellowish brown and 3-angled

Yellow nutsedge is a persistent weed, especially in low areas





Yellow rocketPerennial, biennial or winter annual, reproducing by seed

Leaves pinnately divided; basal leaves have larger terminal lobe, are 2 to 8 inches long and form a dense basal rosette; stem leaves become progressively shorter with top leaves 1 inch long and deeply lobed

Stems are numerous and grow from a crown; erect, smooth and angular or ridged, branched near top; 1 to 2 feet tall

Flowers bright lemon-yellow; four-petaled; located in spike-like racemes at the end of each branch





Yellow woodsorrel *Perennial or annual, reproducing by seed*

Leaves have long petioles; divided into three heart-shaped leaflets

Stems are weak, prostrate or semi-erect; may root at joints; smooth; hairy; 4 to 18 inches tall; often multi-branched

Flowers small; yellow; five petaled; occurring in clusters

The End

