

Wild mustard

Sinapis arvensis

Description

Habit

Annual, growing up to 1-3 ft. tall and branching occasionally.

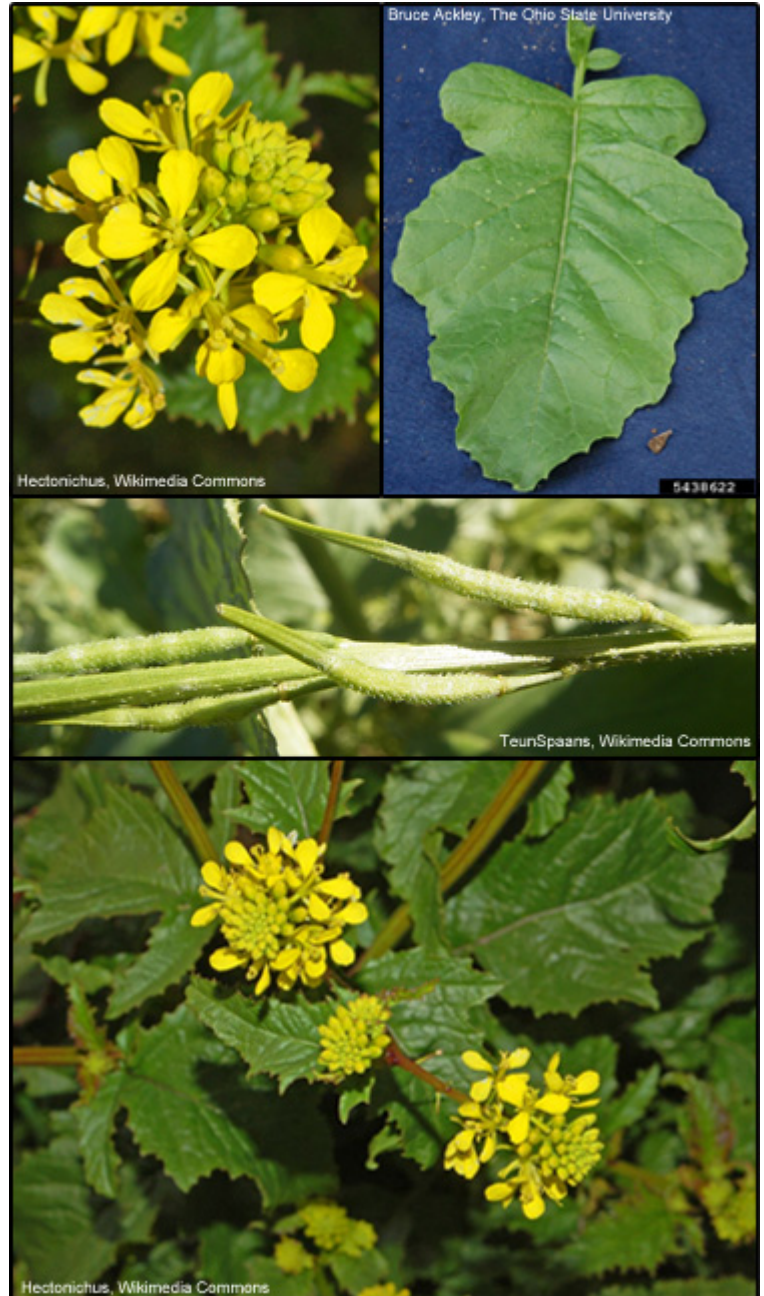
Leaves

1.5-7 in. long, 0.5-2 in. wide, irregularly toothed, mostly hairless, broadly oval to egg-shaped.

Lower leaves are stalked with 1-3 pairs of irregular lobes becoming stalkless and unlobed in the upper branches.

Stems

Green or with reddish pigmentation especially near leaf axils, erect, amply branched, mostly smooth except for scattered, coarse hairs, more dense on mid-lower stems.





Flowers

Elongated clusters, tightly packed, short-stalked, borne at the end of branching stems, yellow in color, 1/2 in. across, 4 petals, 6 yellow stamen in the middle.

Fruits and Seeds

Slender, round, 1/2 to 1.5 in. pod, beak at the tip. Seeds are round, small, less than 1/10 in. in diameter, dark brown to black, brown or reddish in color.

Habitat

Native to Eurasia. Found in disturbed places such as roadsides, fields, railroads, dumps, shores, yards and gardens, and fencerows.

Reproduction

By seed and vegetatively.

Similar

Can be easily distinguished from other mustard (*Sinapis* spp. / *Brassica* spp.) species by the presence of reddish purple rings or patches at the junction of its stems.

Monitoring and Rapid Response

Credits

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