

## Wild chervil

### *Anthriscus sylvestris*

#### Description

This plant is edible. It is also considered to be a natural mosquito repellent.

#### Habit

Biennial; grows 3-4 ft but can grow up to 6 ft; tuberous roots are aggressive and spread rapidly.

#### Leaves

Fern-like, nearly hairless (some hairs on lower surface), divided into smaller leaflets which in turn are also divided, leaf bases surround stem, can grow over 1 ft long.

#### Stems

Hollow and furrowed; soft-hairy below, smooth above; fringe of hairs at stem nodes.

#### Flowers

White in color, 5 petals, produced in umbels (umbrella-like cluster) at end of stems, produces 2 joined seeds with small antenna-like structures





at the top; blooms May through June.

### **Fruits and Seeds**

About 1/4 inch long, at first green, then shiny dark brown at maturity.

### **Habitat**

Native to Europe. Found in woods, roadsides, prairies, hayfields, pastures, waste places, and disturbed areas.

### **Reproduction**

By seed and lateral budding at top of roots.

### **Similar**

Fool's parsley (*Aethusa cynapium*); Poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*); Eastern hemlockparsley (*Conioselinum chinense*); Queen Anne's lace (*Daucus carota*); Caraway (*Carum carvi*).

### **Monitoring and Rapid Response**

Hand-pulling, cut at or below soil level, mowing; effectively controlled using any of several readily available general use herbicides such as clopyralid and dicamba.

### **Credits**

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