

Wormwood

Artemisia absinthium

Description

Introduced in the early 19th century to be cultivated for medicinal and social uses.

Habit

Herbaceous, perennial plant that ca grow up to 5 feet tall.

Leaves

Alternate, gray-green in color, 1-4 inches long and give off a strong sage-like scent when crushed. Covered in fine, silky white hairs. Deeply pinnately divided with round lobes/edges.

Stems

Somewhat woody and branching.

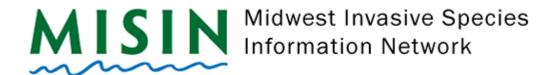
Flowers

Yellowish in color, 1/8 inch wide on dangling stalks; inflorescence large, leafy clusters of drooping heads; blooms July through September.

Fruits and Seeds

Nearly cylindrical, dry seed narrow at the base





and rounded at the top.

Habitat

Native to Eurasia, the Middle East and North Africa. Found in hardwood and coniferous forests, prairies, meadows, grasslands, fields, and disturbed areas.

Reproduction

By seed or vegetatively by rhizomes.

Similar

Resembles other species of Sagebrush (Artemisia spp.).

Monitoring and Rapid Response

Dig up individual plants. For large infestations, mow as close to the ground as possible. Cover infestation with black landscape fabric in early spring when leaves emerge. Prescribed fire may also be effecting as well as picloram, dicamba, 2,4-D and glyphosate herbicides.

Credits

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