

Laboratory

Broadleaf Weed Identification

Tips for Identifying Broadleaf Weeds

- The cotyledon is an important identifying characteristic for broadleaf weeds.
- Shape and position of leaves, presence of pubescence or hairs, and venation are all helpful characteristics.
- When weeds are mature, flower size, shape, and color can be used to distinguish weeds.
- Some broadleaf weeds such as pigweeds or morningglories can be difficult to specifically identify because of natural crossings that can occur between species within the same genera.
- Broadleaf weeds are *all* dicots

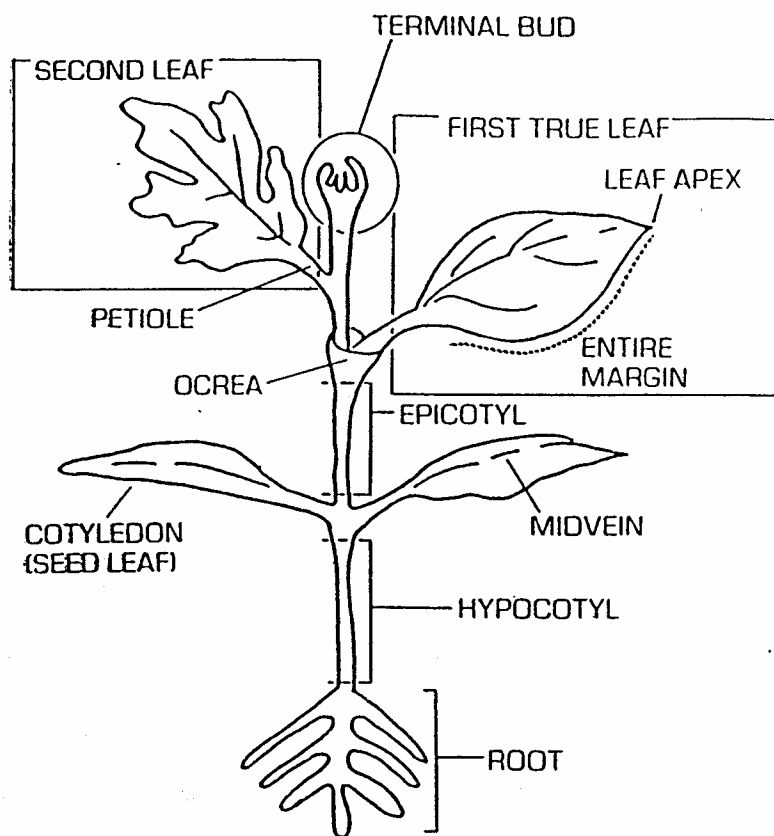
For the weeds listed below, specific information to aid in identification is provided. You will be responsible for identifying all of these broadleaf weeds

alligatorweed	pitted morningglory
balloonvine	prickly sida
carpetweed	prostrate spurge
common cocklebur	purple moonflower
common purslane	red morningglory
common ragweed	redweed
cutleaf groundcherry	scouringrush
cypressvine morningglory	sharppod morningglory
eclipta	showy crotalaria
entireleaf morningglory	sicklepod
giant ragweed	silverleaf nightshade
hemp sesbania	smallflower morningglory
hophornbeam copperleaf	smellmelon
horsenettle	spotted spurge
ivyleaf morningglory	Texasweed
palmleaf morningglory	trumpetcreeper
Pennsylvania smartweed	wild poinsettia
pigweed sp.	woolly croton

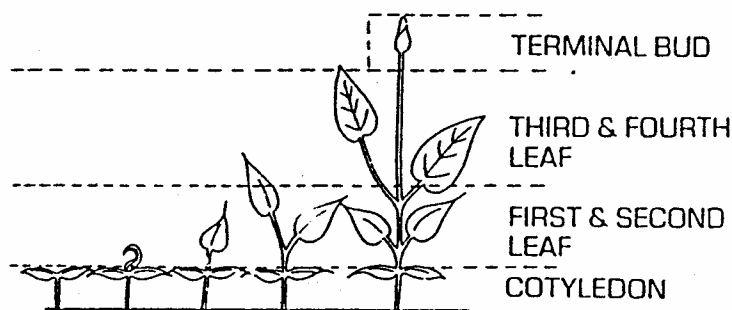
Other broadleaf weeds that you will be responsible for will include: (Will be added later)

You are encouraged to visit the weed science web site (www.lsuagcenter.com/weedscience) where photos of many of these weeds can be viewed.

VEGETATIVE PLANT PARTS



LEAF GROWTH STAGES



ALTERNATE

One leaf attached per node. Newest leaf is of smaller size.

ANNUAL

A plant that lives a year or less.

COMPOUND LEAF

A composite of two or more leaflets.

COTYLEDON

Seed leaves; the first leaflike structures, usually paired, appearing above ground in most dicotyledonous plants.

DECUMBENT

Lying flat or prostrate, but with the tip growing upward.

ENTIRE

Leaf margins that are smooth without irregularly cut or toothed edges.

EPICOTYL

The length of stem above the cotyledons to the growing point.

FIRST TRUE LEAF

First leaf to emerge after the cotyledons.

GLABROUS

Without hairs

HYPOCOTYL

The length of stem between the node of the cotyledons and the root.

LEAF APEX

The outer most tip of a leaf.

MARGIN

The border or edge of any plant part.

NODE

That part of the stem from which leaves or branches arise

OCREA

A membranous sheath surrounding the stem at the point of attachment of the leaves in members of the smartweed family.

OPPOSITE LEAVES

Leaves attached at the same node on opposite sides of stem. Leaves at same node are of similar size.

ORBICULAR

Semi-round to egg shaped.

PERENNIAL

A plant that may live several years.

PETIOLE

The stalk of a leaf

PUBESCENT

Hairy or downy, usually with fine soft hairs. Commonly the term is used to indicate hairiness of a generalized instead of a specialized type, and it is used loosely to cover any kind of hair.

RHIZOME

An underground stem, often called rootstock, which provides a means for the spread of some perennial plants.

SERRATED

With teeth-like sawteeth, that is angular and directed forward.

SIMPLE LEAF

A single leaf.

STIPULES

One of a pair of appendages at the base of the petiole at the point of attachment to a stem.

STOLON

A runner, that is, a branch which grows along the ground and produces adventitious roots.

TAP ROOT SYSTEM

A root system with the primary root markedly larger than the others.

TERMINAL BUD

The bud at the end (apex) of a stem or branch where new leaves arise. Often referred to as the growing point or apical meristem.

WINTER ANNUAL

An annual plant that usually initiates growth in the fall, lives over winter, and produces seed in the spring.

Steps to Identifying Broadleaf Weeds

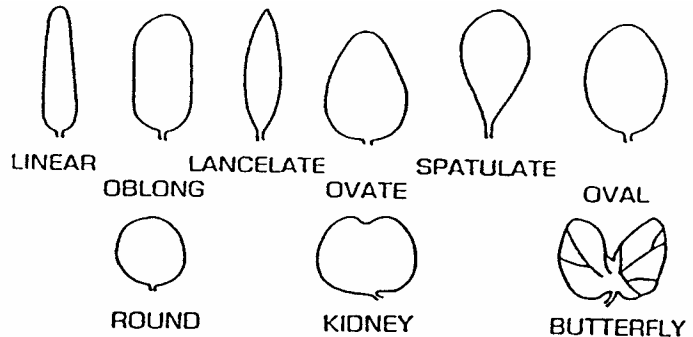
STEP 1

Overall characteristics

Size, shape, color of plant

STEP 2 Cotyledons

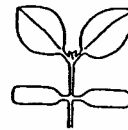
1. Shape
2. Venation type and prominence
3. Hairy or glabrous
4. Coloration



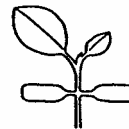
STEP 3

Leaves

1. Arrangement on stem (opposite or alternate)
2. Shape
3. Margin characteristics
4. Venation type
5. Hairy or glabrous
6. If lobed; leaves pinnately or palmately lobed?



OPPOSITE LEAVES
Attached at same node on opposite sides of stem. Leaves at same node of similar size



ALTERNATE LEAVES
One leaf per node. New leaf is smaller.



PINNATELY LOBED



PALMATELY LOBED



PALMATE VENATION



PINNATE VENATION

STEP 4 Root system



Perennial



annual

STEP 5

Other characteristics

Morningglory Identification

Morningglories Common to Louisiana













(a) Note cotyledon shape and angle between lobes

(b) Hairs on stems and leaves

(c) Leaf shape and texture

(d) Flower color

(e) Often times morningglory spp. will cross in nature resulting in plants that show characteristics of two or more species

Morningglory species	Leaf		Stem			Sepal		Flower (corolla)			Capsule		
	Shape	Pubescence	Herbaceous prickles	Pubescence	Inflorescence type	Length	Pubescence	Color	Length	Width	Shape	Beak length	Pubescence
						(mm)			(cm)			(mm)	
Tall		Yes (dense)	No	Yes	Solitary	8 to 14	Yes	White or pink to purple and variegated	3.5 to 5.5	3.5 to 5.5	Sub-globose	3 to 4	No
Entireleaf		Yes	No	Yes	Solitary	12 to 24	Yes	Light blue with white throat	2.5 to 4.5	2.5 to 4.5	Sub-globose	5	No
Ivyleaf		Yes	No	Yes	Solitary	12 to 24	Yes	Light blue with white throat	2.5 to 4.5	2.5 to 4.5	Sub-globose	5	No
Purple		No	Yes	No	Solitary	10 to 13	No	Lavender or pinkish lavender (open only at night)	6 to 10	5 to 8	Ovoid	5	No
Pitted		No	No	No	Cyme	9 to 11	Yes (slight)	White or sometimes lavender	1.5 to 2.3	1.5 to 2	Sub-globose	1	Yes (some)
Cotton (annual or perennial)		Yes (slight)	No	Yes	Cyme	7 to 11	Yes	Violet with red violet throat and white upper band	2.8 to 4.5	3.5 to 5	Sub-globose	4	Yes (very)
Sharppod (annual or perennial)		No	No	Yes (slight)	Cyme	8 to 13	Yes	Light violet with light red violet throat and upper band	2.3 to 2.5	2.5 to 3	Sub-globose	1	Yes (very)
Palmleaf		No	No	No	Solitary	5 to 6	No	Deep violet	1.5 to 2.3	2 to 3	Ovoid (coiled peduncle)	2	No
Red		No	No	No	Solitary	8 to 9	No	Scarlet with orange tube	2.0 to 2.5	1 to 2	Sub-globose	3 to 4	No
Smallflower		Yes (edge only)	No	Yes	Cyme (dense)	12 to 15	Yes	Light blue	1.2 to 1.6	0.8 to 1.2	Sub-globose	None	No
Cypressvine		No	No	No	Cyme	5	No	Deep red	2.2 to 2.8	2 to 3	Sub-globose Ovoid	5 to 6	No
Bigroot (perennial)		No	No	No	Cyme	17 to 18	No	White with lavender tube	6 to 8	7 to 10	Ovoid	7	No

A Vegetative Key for Identification of Morningglory Species in the Vegetative Stage

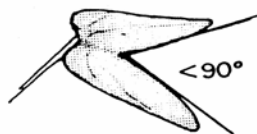
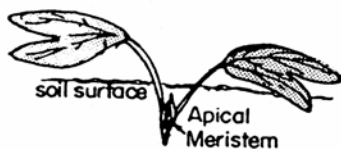
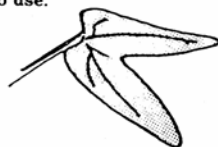
By C. BRENT ROGERS and LAWRENCE R. OLIVER

SEVERAL of the morningglory species present in Arkansas are competitive and damaging to crops. It is well documented that morningglory species differ in their susceptibility to specific herbicides. Therefore, it is important to know which species is present before selecting the herbicide for control.

In addition, many postemergence herbicides lose their effectiveness after the target species becomes large, but plant keys often identify species by flowers or other reproductive parts, a time when it is much too late for control measures to be effective or to prevent crop yield reduction.

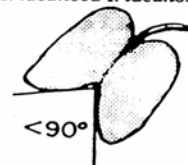
The following key was constructed to aid in identification of morningglory species while they are still seedlings. Once they identify the species, growers should consult their county Extension agent for control measures to use.

1. Cotyledons moderately to deeply lobed; lobes pointed at tip and relatively narrow in proportion to length; lobes approximately 0.4 to 1.3 cm wide — (2).
1. Cotyledons shallowly to moderately deeply lobed; lobes more or less rounded and relatively wide in proportion to length; lobes 0.8 to 4.6 cm wide — (8).
2. Growing point (apical meristem) and point of cotyledon attachment does not emerge with cotyledons—Big-root morningglory (*Ipomoea pandurata*).
2. Apical meristem does emerge with cotyledons — (3).
3. First true leaf other than heart-shaped — (4).
3. First true leaf heart-shaped and first true leaf and cotyledons medium to large in size (2 to 4.5 cm wide) — (5).
4. First true leaf finely pinnately lobed; cotyledon lobes extremely narrow (< 0.5 cm) with a very wide angle (120 to 150°) between lobes — Cypressvine morningglory (*I. quamoclit*).
4. First true leaf palmately divided, five-lobed; cotyledon lobes narrow, narrow angle between lobes (<90°); cotyledon has reddish cast in early stages — Palmleaf morningglory (*I. wrightii*).
5. Main stem very pubescent between attachment of cotyledons and first true leaf — (6).
5. Main stem with few or no hairs between attachment of cotyledons and first true leaf — (7).
6. Petiole of first true leaf moderately pubescent and greenish in color; second true leaf also heart-shaped — Cotton morningglory (*I. trichocarpa* var. *torreyana*).
6. Petiole of first true leaf has only sparse pubescence and is purplish in color; second true leaf may have 2 sharp-pointed lobes — Sharppod morningglory (*I. trichocarpa* var. *trichocarpa*).

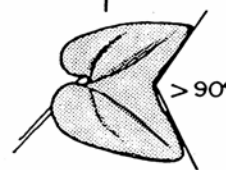


7. Almost no pubescence on stem and petiole — Pitted morningglory-purple flowered form (*I. lacunosa* f. *purpurata*).
7. Occasional pubescence on stem and petiole — Pitted morningglory-white flowered form (*I. lacunosa* f. *lacunosa*).

8. Cotyledons moderately deeply lobed with a narrow angle (< 90°) between lobes — (9).

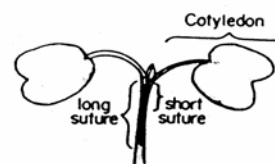


8. Cotyledons shallowly lobed with a wide angle (> 90°) between lobes — (11).



9. Dense pubescence not readily apparent on first true leaf; short suture below cotyledons — Tall morningglory (*I. purpurea*).

9. Dense pubescence readily apparent on first true leaf; cotyledons moderate in size; no apparent pubescence on stem below cotyledon attachment point; long suture below cotyledons — (10).



10. First true leaf heart-shaped, margin entire — Entireleaf morningglory (*I. hederacea* var. *integriuscula*).
10. First true leaf 3-lobed, much like an ivyleaf in appearance; angles between lobes recessed, rounded — Ivyleaf morningglory (*I. hederacea* var. *hederacea*).

11. Cotyledons extremely shallowly lobed; cotyledons heart-shaped and small, < 1 cm any dimension; first true leaf with distinct marginal hairs — Small flower morningglory (*Jacquemontia tamnifolia*).



11. Cotyledons less shallowly lobed and not heart-shaped; no distinct marginal hairs on first leaf; tooth-like projections around margin of first true leaf present or absent, but distinct if present — (12).

12. Cotyledons and leaves extremely large and cotyledon blades identical in appearance; leaves heart-shaped with entire margin; distinct purplish coloration of petioles of cotyledons and first leaf; stem very large with large projections appearing on stems later — Purple moonflower (*I. muricata*).

12. Cotyledons and leaves moderate to small; first true leaf has no appearance of pubescence and is relatively flat and smooth; second leaf also has no appearance of pubescence; stem slender with no large projections — Red morningglory (*I. coccinea*).

Morningglory Identification

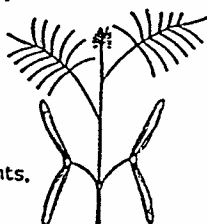
CYPRESSVINE MORNINGGLORY (*Ipomoea quamoclit*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Butterfly
Long and narrow
Lobes pointed
Long angle between points,
much greater than 90°

LEAVES: Alternate
Glabrous
Deeply dissected into linear lobes
Petioles grooved on upper surface

OTHER: Hypocotyl smooth and become
viny after 5 leaf stage



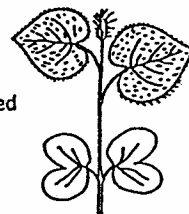
ENTIRELEAF MORNINGGLORY (*Ipomoea hederacea* var. *Integruscula* Gray)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Butterfly
Moderate to deeply indented
Lobes rounded
Glabrous

LEAVES: Alternate
Heart-shaped
Hairy

OTHER: Creeping vine
Smaller than Tall Morningglory
Hypocotyl densely hairy, hairs
stick out, may be red



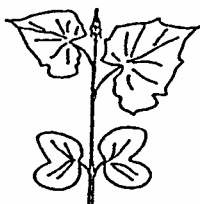
RED MORNINGGLORY (*Ipomoea coccinea*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Butterfly
Often maroon-tinged
Not deeply lobed with
lobes rounded

LEAVES: Alternate
Glabrous
Heart-shaped
Leaves with basal points
Long-petiole
Entire margins

OTHER: Green to maroon hypocotyl
Hypocotyl smooth
Creeping vine



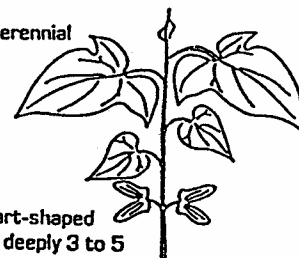
SHARPPOD MORNINGGLORY (*Ipomoea trichocarpa*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual or weak Perennial

COTYLEDONS: Butterfly
Deeply indented
Lobes pointed

LEAVES: Alternate
Glabrous
First 2 leaves heart-shaped
Later true leaves deeply 3 to 5
lobed

OTHER: Hypocotyl slightly hairy
Often confused with Cotton
Morningglory



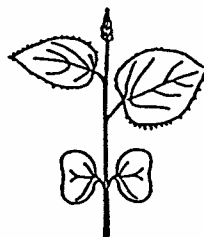
SMALLFLOWER MORNINGGLORY (*Jacquemontia tamnifolia*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Butterfly
Slightly indented
Lobes rounded
Not Morningglory-like

LEAVES: Alternate
Ovate-shape
Broad at base
Pinnate venation
Hairy on margins
Occasionally sparsely hairy
on surface

OTHER: Creeping vine
Hypocotyl hairy



Morningglory Identification

IVYLEAF MORNINGGLORY (*Ipomoea hederacea*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Butterfly
Moderately deep indents
Lobes rounded
Prominent veins
Glabrous

LEAVES: Alternate
Ivy shaped-lobes
Entire margin
Hairy

OTHER: Creeping vine
Hypocotyl hairy



PALMLEAF MORNINGGLORY WILLOWLEAF MORNINGGLORY (*Ipomoea wrightii*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Butterfly
Deeply indented
Lobes pointed
Glabrous

LEAVES: Alternate
Glabrous
Palmately 3-7 lobed, but simple as
the fingers on a hand

OTHER: Creeping vine
Hypocotyl smooth



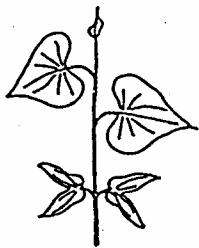
PITTED MORNINGGLORY (*Ipomoea lacunosa*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Butterfly
Deeply indented
Lobes pointed
Lobes along point
Glabrous

LEAVES: Alternate
Glabrous
Heart shaped to basal lobed
Purple margin on leaves

OTHER: Hypocotyl smooth, green or
purple
Creeping vine



PURPLE MORNINGGLORY PURPLE MOONFLOWER (*Ipomoea turbinata*)

COTYLEDONS: Butterfly, large
Slightly indented
Lobes slightly pointed
Glabrous

LEAVES: Alternate
Glabrous
Heart-shaped

OTHER: Simple conventional taproot
system
Fleshy prickles on stem
Creeping vine



Broadleaf Identification

SMOOTH PIGWEED

(*Amaranthus hybridus*)

TALL WATERHEMP

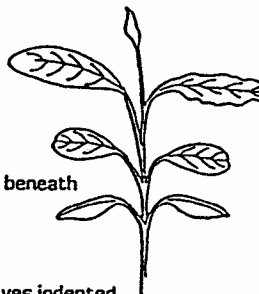
(*Amaranthus tuberculatus*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Linear to oblong
Often reddish violet beneath
Glabrous

LEAVES: Alternate
Oval to ovate
Apex of first few leaves indented
Entire margins
Sometimes sparsely hairy

OTHER: Hypocotyl often reddish violet
Stem without hair
Almost impossible to distinguish
between Smooth Pigweed and Tall
Waterhemp in seedling stage.
Tall Waterhemp has male and
female flowers on separate plants.



COMMON PURSLANE

(*Portulaca oleracea*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Oblong
Glabrous
Thick and short

LEAVES: Opposite
Glabrous
Ovate
Thick and juicy
Smooth and flush-like without
leaf petioles
Green on upper surface, maroon
tinged on lower surface

OTHER: Stems spread flat on the ground
Stem is maroon and succulent
Often confused with Prostrate
Pigweed



CARPETWEED

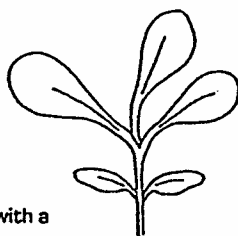
(*Mollugo verticillata*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Linear to oblong
Glabrous
Lacking evident veins

LEAVES: Alternate
Basal margins edged with a
few marginal hairs
Dull throughout, pale beneath

OTHER: Leaves form a rosette
Rank dusty odor when crushed
No stem apparent
Decumbent growth habit



COMMON COCKLEBUR

(*Xanthium strumarium*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Lanceolate
Large, thick
Glabrous

LEAVES: First two opposite,
later alternate
Rough surface
Ovate shaped
Margins may be toothed
Three main veins
Palmate venation

OTHER: Hypocotyl purple
Stem with scattered purple
to black spots



COMMON RAGWEED

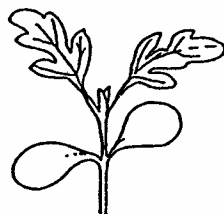
(*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Spatulate
Glabrous

LEAVES: Opposite
Pinnately lobed
Hairy

OTHER: Hypocotyl often purple



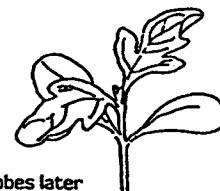
GIANT RAGWEED

(*Ambrosia trifida*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Spatulate
Glabrous

LEAVES: Opposite
Palmately lobed, 3 lobes later
(occasionally 5 lobes)
Margins may be toothed
Hairy
Rough



Broadleaf Identification

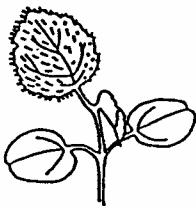
PRICKLY SIDA (*Sida spinosa*) (often called Teaweed)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Round
Apex indented
Glabrous

LEAVES: Alternate
Round to ovate shaped
Toothed margins
Sparsely hairy

OTHER: Often confused with Velvetleaf
and Hophornbeam Copperleaf



PROSTRATE SPURGE (*Euphorbia humistrata*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Oval
Glabrous
Green on the upper surface
Maroon on the lower surface
Exudes white latex when crushed

LEAVES: Opposite
Ovalish
Maroon blotch on the upper surface
Maroon with greyish powdery coating on lower surface
Pinnate venation
Hairy with serrated margins
Hypocotyl pink-smooth

OTHER: Bitter tasting
Leaves and stems have milky juice
Stem-pinkish-densely
Decumbent growth habits



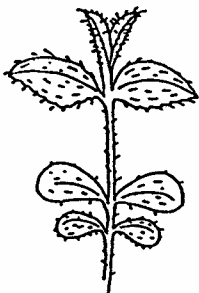
SPOTTED SPURGE (*Euphorbia maculata*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Oval
Hairy
Green upper surface
Maroon lower surface
Margins slightly indented

LEAVES: Opposite
Hairy
Oval to ovate
Reddish in coloration in veins
Pinnate venation
Grayish powdery coating on lower surface
Margins slightly serrated

OTHER: Stems exude milky sap when broken
Hypocotyl narrow throughout,
sparse soft hair
Prostrate Spurge similar but
forms mat on soil surface



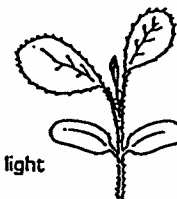
SHOWY CROTALARIA (*Crotalaria spectabilis*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Oblong
Thick
Glabrous
Green on upper surface, light
on lower surface
Midvein evident

LEAVES: Alternate
Green on upper surface, gray
on lower surface
Upper surface glabrous
Pinnate venation
Margin slightly hairy

OTHER: Leaf petioles short



PENNSYLVANIA SMARTWEED (*Polygonum pennsylvanicum*)

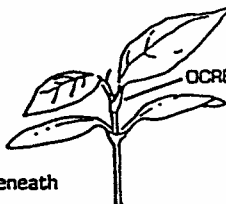
LADYSTHUMB (*Polygonum persicaria*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Lanceolate to oblong
Glabrous
Often reddish violet beneath

LEAVES: Alternate
Lanceolate shaped
Entire margins
Pinnate venation

OTHER: Hypocotyl often reddish violet
Ocrea (hairy on Ladysthumb)



Broadleaf Identification

HOPHORNBEAM COPPERLEAF (*Acalypha ostrylfolia*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Round
Glabrous

LEAVES: Opposite
Glabrous
Dark green
Pinnate venation

OTHER: Stem smooth
Often confused with Prickly Sida



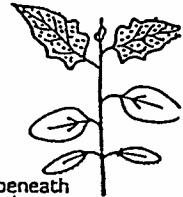
HORSENETTLE (*Solanum carolinense*)

LIFE CYCLE: Perennial

COTYLEDONS: Ovate, narrow
Glossy green above
Smooth on both surfaces
Hairy along margins
Deep green above and pale beneath
Covered on both surfaces with
stiff hairs to prickles

LEAVES: Alternate
Oblong to oval
Marginally undulate

OTHER: Potato odor when crushed
Hypocotyl tough, often purple
tinged, densely covered with short
stiff hair

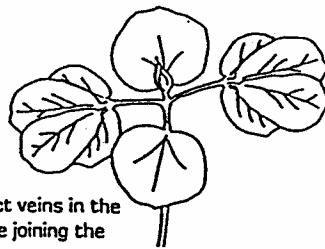


SICKLEPOD (*Cassia obtusifolia*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Round
Glabrous
3 to 5 distinct veins in the
upper surface joining the
midvein

LEAVES: Alternate
Glabrous
Light green
3 to 5 leaflets, rounded at tip



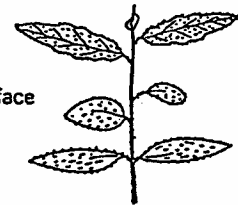
SILVERLEAF NIGHTSHADE (*Solanum elaeagnifolium*)

LIFE CYCLE: Perennial

COTYLEDONS: Lanceolate
Hairy
Green on upper surface,
light green on lower surface
Covered with hair

LEAVES: Alternate
Linear to oblong
Green above and silvery
green beneath
Margin entire to lightly serrated

OTHER: Hypocotyl - densely covered with
short coarse hairs
Often purple tinged



CUTLEAF GROUNDCHERRY (*Physalis angulata*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Ovate
Glabrous

LEAVES: Alternate
Glabrous
Pinnate venation
Emerging leaves cupped
at base of emergence
Serrated leaf margins

OTHER: Often confused with Nightshade
species
Stem hairy
Tap root present



ECLIPTA (*Eclipta prostrata*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Spatulate
Glabrous, midvein evident
on lower surface only

LEAVES: Opposite
Pinnate venation
Midvein evident on both surfaces
as a slight ridge
Lower surface hairy
Leaf margin slightly serrated
toward leaf apex



Broadleaf Identification

HEMP SESBANIA (*Sesbania exaltata*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Oblong
Glabrous

LEAVES: Alternate
First leaf simple
Second leaf pinnately compound
Glabrous



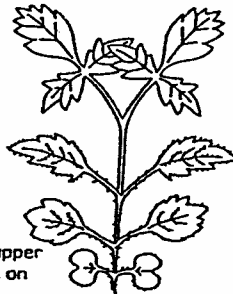
TRUMPETCREEPER (*Campsis radicans*)

LIFE CYCLE: Perennial

COTYLEDONS: Kidney
Hairy on margin

LEAVES: Opposite
Pinnate venation
Slightly hairy
Coarsely toothed
Leaflets green on the upper
surface and light green on
the lower surface

OTHER: Stem with purple tinges



WOOLLY CROTON (*Croton capitatus*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Round

LEAVES: Alternate
Glabrous
Pinnate Venation
Entire

OTHER: Stems densely hairy



VELVETLEAF (*Abutilon theophrasti*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Round
Sparsely hairy

LEAVES: Alternate
Round with pointed apex
Toothed Margins
Velvety hairs

OTHER: Stem hairy



WILD POINSETTIA (*Euphorbia heterophylla*)

LIFE CYCLE: Annual

COTYLEDONS: Lanceolate

LEAVES: Alternate
Smooth leaf margins
Pinnate venation

OTHER: Stem exudes milky juice
when crushed



Broadleaf Weed Identification

Redweed (*Melochia corchorifolia*)

- Synonyms: chocolate weed, English teaweed
- Reddish stem
- Flowers in a head with a pubescent appearance
- Flowers are small and pink to lavender
- Branches elongate quickly with congested new growth at axils and ends
- Various shaped leaves
- Double dentated serrations on leaf edges

Texasweed (*Caperonia palustris*)

- Synonyms: Mexicanweed
- Stout annual with small spines
- Leaves elongated with prominent veins
- Leaves have single serrations along edges

Smellmelon (*Cucumis melo*)

- Stout annual vine
- Similar in appearance and smell to cucumbers
- Stem covered with small spines
- Tendrils present
- Flowers small and yellow
- Fruit is small, eclipical melon with dark green stripes

Balloonvine (*Cardiospermum halicacabum*)

- Vining plant with tendrils
- Leaves are compound with 3 to 5 deeply indented leaflets
- Fruit similar to groundcherry (chinese lantern)

Scouringrush (*Equisetum hymale*)

- Synonyms: equisetum, poppingweed, dragonweed, dragontail
- A primitive plant common on ditchbanks
- Very deep rhizomes
- No leaves
- Looks like asparagus

Alligatorweed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*)

- Stem very fleshy
- Leaves opposing and also fleshy
- Prominent midvein
- Leaves wider at base and wrap around the stem
- Small inconspicuous flowers
- An aquatic with a hollow stem
- Sterile seed produced