

Dispsacus laciniatus, Cut-leaf Teasel

The Cut-leaf Teasel is often found in open habitats such as roadsides, prairies, savannas, or meadows. It is easily spread due to the production of abundant seeds.

Description: This perennial plant grows as a basal rosette, then has a tall flower stalk (can reach up to 6-7 feet tall). This species have opposite leaves at the base that are long and pinnately lobed, coarsely toothed, and ciliate. The tall flower stalk are often covered in white prickles with opposite smaller basal leaves at intervals along the stalk.

Control: This species is often difficult to effectively manage. Removing the plant manual, with pulling or digging, may help control the spread but remaining portions of the taproot may regenerate the plant.

Look-a-likes: This species may resemble the Leavenworth's eryngo (*Eryngium leavenworthii*) or the Common Teasel (*Dipsacus sylvestris*), although can be distinguished by the difference in coloration. During the rosette stage, the Cut-leaf Teasel looks similar to Wild Lettuce (*Lactuca spp.*), but once the flower stalks develop they can be distinguished more easily.

Flower Time and Description: Flowers are present from July – September. Each stalk ends with a cylindrical flower head. At the base of this flower head, there are several bracts that stick out. There are individual flowers densely packed together on the flower head.

