

Weed Alert! Plumeless thistle



Plumeless thistle

(*Carduus acanthoides*)

Mature Size Waist



Description

- Erect annual plant 1-8 ft. tall
- Small 1 in. long purple flowers surrounded by long stout spines
- Conspicuous wings run down length of stems
- Starts as a low-growing rosette of leaves
- Deeply lobed to spiny-toothed dark green leaves; waxy coating and white hairs underneath with a smooth surface
- Spread by wind and animals
- Reproduces by seed
- Native to Europe and temperate Asia



Bloom Period Jul - Nov

Habitat Rangelands, pastures, grasslands, roadsides, disturbed sites



2-Minute Removal Pull

Image credits: Front top/bottom: WI DNR; Front center: Steve Dewey, USU, www.forestryimages.org; Back top: Gary L. Piper, WSU, Bugwood.org; Back bottom: Dan Tenaglia, Missouriplants.com; cons by Tim Hyland
These cards were adapted from a design by National Park Service.