

Invasive Species Alert

Common name: Ward's weed

Scientific name: *Carrichtera annua* (L.) DC.

Origin:

- Mediterranean region and Western Asia (native), invasive in Australia

Identifying Factors:

- Small bristly-haired plant, 5-40 cm
- Leaves: < 10 cm and deeply divided into multiple narrow lobes
- Flowers: pale yellow, 4 petals, 8-9 mm with purple veins
- Fruit: 6-8 mm in drooping position, topped with spoon-shaped petals



Above Photos: Bob & Fiona Richardson

Dispersal:

- Seeds dispersed via foraging animals and ants over short distances
- Long distance dispersal on vehicles, clothing, large animals, and agriculture

Impacts:

- Replaces perennial native species in some environments

Looks Like:

- Some resemblance to western tansymustard

References:

https://keyserver.lucidcentral.org/weeds/data/media/Html/carrichtera_annua.htm
<https://www.calflora.org>