

BUFFALOBUR

Solanum rostratum
Solanaceae, the nightshade family
Category: Control

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FACTSHEET INFORMATION

Summary of Invasiveness

- Buffalobur can negatively impact agricultural crop production by competing for space and resources, as well as by contaminating seeds and products such as wool.
- If ingested, it is toxic to both humans and livestock therefore, infestations decrease forage values.
- It can negatively impact the economy by invading important tourism areas by forming dense, thorny monocultures that deter people from passing through infested areas.
- The plant is drought tolerant and can grow in a wide range of conditions.

Description

- Annual that can grow up to 2 feet tall.
- Green leaves are deeply lobed nearly to the midvein and covered with short, starlike hairs.
- Midrib and leafstalks are spiny.
- Bright yellow, 5-petaled flowers are 1 inch wide.
- Fruit is a berry enclosed in spiny, bur-like calyx. Crumpled, flat, black seeds are released when berries dry and split.

Introduction and Movement

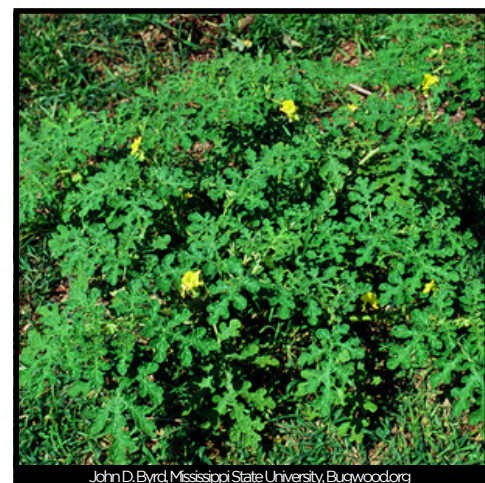
- Buffalobur is native to Mexico and the Great Plains region of the U.S. and was likely introduced across the U.S. by hitching a ride on cattle and horses from northern Mexico and Texas.
- Inhabits sunny, open, disturbed areas such as roadsides, abandoned agricultural fields, and dry streambeds.
- The seeds are self-propelled by its dehiscent calyx and can be spread via wind or water currents. The velcro-like burs can easily become attached to shoes, clothing, and animal fur aiding in long distance dispersal.

Prevention Strategy

- To prevent accidental introductions, learn how to identify Buffalobur and eradicate infestations on your property.
- Always remove and properly dispose of all seed and plant materials on vehicles, clothing, shoes and pets before you exit or enter outdoor recreational sites.
- Always Remember To: **KNOCK IT OFF!**

Sources

- CABI Invasive Species Compendium: <https://www.cabi.org/isc/datasheet/50544>
- Idaho's Noxious Weeds 9th Edition, University of Idaho: <http://www.extension.uidaho.edu/publishing/pdf/BUL/BUL816.pdf>.



BUFFALOBUR

DISTRIBUTION MAP

