

SYRIAN BEANCAPER

Zygophyllum fabago
Zygophyllaceae, the caltrop family

Category: EDRR

California Department of Food and Agriculture, CDFA, Bugwood.org

FACTSHEET INFORMATION

Summary of Invasiveness

- Syrian beancaper is an invasive plant that has the ability to create monocultures that inhibit the growth of nearby plant species, decreasing biodiversity.
- It is unpalatable to livestock, reducing grazing quality.

Description

- Herbaceous, perennial that can grow up to 3 feet tall and 3 feet wide.
- Plant is bushy and branches from a woody crown.
- Opposite, compound leaves are thick, leathery, hairless, and consist of two leaflets, giving it a Y-shaped appearance.
- Small, 5-petaled flowers are borne in the upper leaf axils and are yellow, copper-orange, or white with pinkish veins.
- Seed pods are 1.5 inches long, oblong, and ribbed.

Introduction and Movement

- Syrian beancaper is native to the Mediterranean region and Syrian desert, and was likely introduced as a seed contaminant.
- Inhabits deserts, dry grasslands, roadsides, disturbed areas, non-crop areas, and abandoned gardens.
- Reproduces by seed and vegetatively from lateral creeping roots, and root fragments.
- It can easily spread by seed dispersal, naturally by wind and water, or on human and animal vectors.

Prevention Strategy

- To prevent accidental introductions, learn how to identify Syrian beancaper and report any sightings.
- Make sure to 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

- Idaho's Noxious Weeds 9th Edition, University of Idaho: <http://www.extension.uidaho.edu/publishing/pdf/BUL/BUL816.pdf>.
- Invasive Plant Atlas of the U.S.: <https://www.invasiveplantatlas.org/subject.html?sub=6630>



Del O. Clark, California Department of Food and Agriculture, Bugwood.org



California Department of Food and Agriculture, CDFA, Bugwood.org



California Department of Food and Agriculture, CDFA, Bugwood.org

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT: INVASIVESPECIES.IDAHO.GOV
TO REPORT INVASIVE SPECIES IN IDAHO, PLEASE CALL 1-877-336-8676.

SYRIAN BEANCAPER DISTRIBUTION MAP

