

Parthenium hysterophorus

SANTA MARIA FEVERFEW

Asteraceae

Common Synonyms: *Parthenium pinnatifidum*, *P. lobatum*

FLEPPC Category: -

FDACS Listed Noxious Weed: No

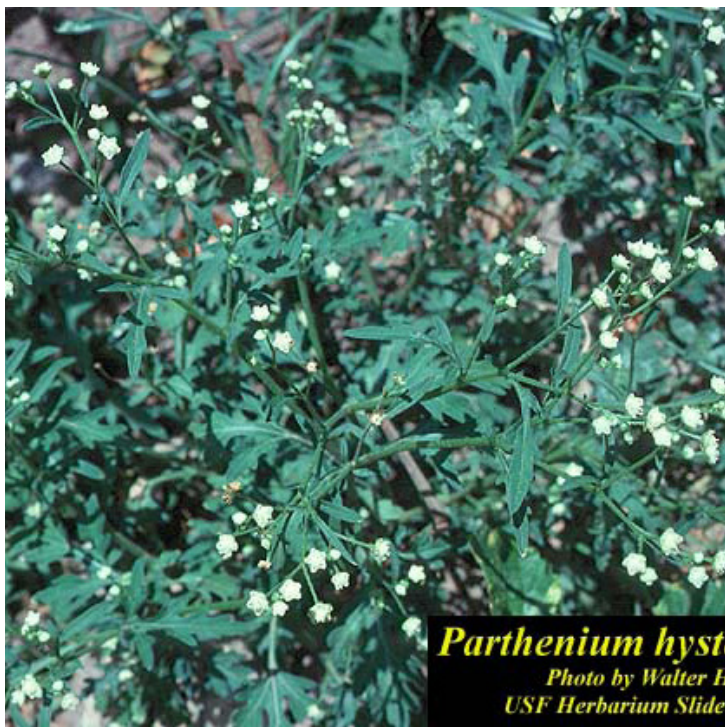
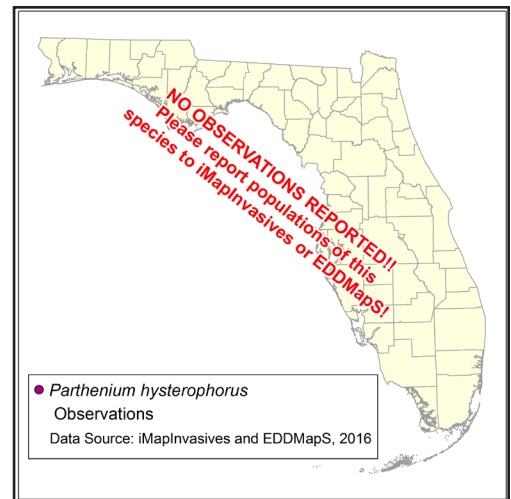
IFAS Assessment

North	OK
Central	OK
South	OK

USDA Hardiness Zone: N/A

Growth Habit: Large herb

Origin: Mexico, Central & South America, and the Caribbean.



Description: An annual, upright, herbaceous plant to 1.5 m tall with green stems having distinct longitudinal grooves and covered in stiff hairs. Leaves are simple, alternate, and deeply incised (more so on lower branches). Flowers are small, white, and arranged in tight heads that are clustered at the tips of branches.

Note: Can be confused with common ragweed (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*) which doesn't have the grooved stems or the white flowers

Habitat: Disturbed sites and agricultural fields

Florida Introduction Date: Earliest Florida herbarium specimen from 1941

Control Methods: .

Useful Resources:

Harmful and beneficial aspects of *P. hysterophorus*: an update (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3339593/>)
Tamado T, Milberg P. Control of parthenium (*Parthenium hysterophorus*) in grain sorghum (*Sorghum bicolor*) in the smallholder farming system in eastern Ethiopia. *Weed Technol.* 2004;18:100?105. doi: 10.1614/WT-03-033R

Comments: Contact with this plant can cause dermatitis, watery eyes, and swelling of nose and mouth tissue. Produces allelopathic chemicals that suppress crop and pasture plants and allergens that affect humans and livestock.