

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



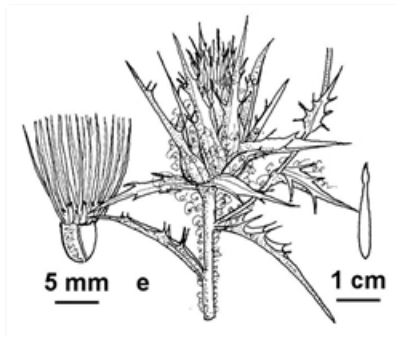
Flowering stem. Photographer Don Wood, Bungonia, east of Goulburn



Flowering stem. Photographer Don Wood, Scotia Sanctuary, western NSW



Plants. Photographer Don Wood, Scotia Sanctuary, western NSW



Line drawings. e. flower head; bract; seed.. E Beckett, University of Oxford. ©2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria Board

Common name

Saffron thistle

Family

Asteraceae

Where found

Woodland, grassy areas, and disturbed sites. Widespread.

Notes

Introduced annual herb to 1.6 m tall. Spiny leaf margins. Flower **heads** surrounded by spiny **bracts**. Stems grooved, sparsely hairy to hairy, slightly sticky. Basal leaves to 30 cm long, about 60 mm wide, soon lost. Stem leaves **alternating** up the stems, 3-6 cm long, 10-30 mm wide, hairy to hairless, sticky, divided, with spiny basal lobes, margins with numerous spine-tipped teeth. Flower heads green, 25-30 mm long, with many cream to yellow **florets** 25-30 mm long, 0 **petals**. Flowers Spring to Summer.

General Biosecurity Duty all NSW. Pest plant ACT. Noxious weed Vic.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Carthamus-lanatus> (accessed 7 January, 2021)

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