



HAVE YOU SEEN THIS PLANT?
It is an Emergent Invasive in Orange County



Male flowers are in loose spikes above the female flowers, which are clustered at the base of the flowering stem. Blooms & sets seed May-December.



SPINY EMEX
Emex spinosa

[Known OC Sites & Status Updates](#)

Distribution map & info:

- calflora.org/cgi-bin/species_query.cgi?where-calrecnum=2955
- cal-ipc.org/ip/management/plant_profiles/Emex_spinosa.php



Spiny Emex is an annual weed that frequently infests disturbed areas, especially in coastal habitats in southern California

Its spiny seed pods' hooked edges stick to people and animals, so it can spread quickly along trails and then into undisturbed areas.



SPINY EMEX, P. 2



Stems lay along the ground, radiating from the base.



IF YOU SEE THIS PLANT AT A SITE THAT'S NOT ON THE LIST:

- Record the plant's location as exactly as you can (GPS coordinates if possible), the date you saw it, and an estimate of how many there were. Include the site's landowner or manager, if known.
- Take identifying photos: the whole plant & its surroundings, closeups of leaves, flowers & fruits/pods.
- If you take a sample, place it immediately into a sealed bag.
- To avoid spreading the plant, check your clothing and shoes thoroughly before leaving the area, and remove and bag all traces of seeds.
- Report the find immediately to invasives@occnps.org.

