



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



Whitetop flowers March-August, & produces prolific seed.



## WHITETOP

*Lepidium draba*

### [Known OC Sites & Status Updates](#)

#### Distribution map & info:

- [calflora.org/cgi-bin/species\\_query.cgi?where-calrecnum=10943](http://calflora.org/cgi-bin/species_query.cgi?where-calrecnum=10943)
- [cal-ipc.org/ip/management/plant\\_profiles/Cardaria\\_draba.php](http://cal-ipc.org/ip/management/plant_profiles/Cardaria_draba.php)

**Can be confused with:** Broad-leaved Peppergrass, *Lepidium latifolium*



Whitetop is a perennial herb found most commonly in riparian areas & marshes. In addition to seeds, it reproduces vegetatively from its extensive root system, &/or resprouts from any bits of root fragments. Either way, it can spread rapidly to form dense monospecific colonies, especially where the soil is moist.



Whitetop quickly colonizes any site that's sufficiently moist: disturbed soils, irrigated agricultural fields, roadsides & ditches.

**WHITETOP, P. 2**



**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](mailto:invasives@occnps.org).