



## HAVE YOU SEEN THIS PLANT?

It is an Emergent Invasive in Orange County

### EGYPTIAN KNAPWEED

aka Moroccan or Mediterranean  
Desert Knapweed

### *Volutaria tubuliflora*

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

#### Distribution map & info:

- [calflora.org/cgi-bin/species\\_query.cgi?where-calrecnum=13055](http://calflora.org/cgi-bin/species_query.cgi?where-calrecnum=13055)

**Can be confused with** *Volutaria canariensis*,  
Canary Island Knapweed

Egyptian knapweed is an erect, openly branched, robust annual that grows from a soon-deciduous basal rosette. It grows best in disturbed ground & seasonally flooded sites, where it can grow to 3+ ft. high & wide. It forms a stout deep taproot & many fine, water-absorbing, surface roots.

It has become widespread in the Anza-Borrego area, & has recently been added to California's Noxious Weed List.



In bloom March-May. White florets, about 15 in a head, generally barely peek out of the involucre; some may be elongated. Phyllaries are finely fuzzy & have dry, stiff, sharp tips; one or two phyllaries may be elongated.







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### 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).

Each plant produces roughly 2500 seeds. Seed are minute, barrel-shaped, with a crown of fine hairs that acts as a parachute for wind dispersal--allowing the plants to spread at a very high rate.