

Tansy Ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*)

TR SENE JAC

Erect biennial, or occasionally annual or short-lived perennial, generally 30 cm to 1 metre tall. Occasionally up to 1.8 metres tall. Native to Eurasia.



Distribution

Very limited distribution in the Southern Interior..

Please report **all** occurrences.

Interesting Facts:

Causes irreversible liver damage if ingested in large quantities or in small amounts over a long period of time.

Quick ID

Cluster of yellow daisy-like flowers.

Stems and leaf stalks often purple.

Rosettes have 10 to 20 leaves with web-like hairs.

Crushed leaves have an unpleasant odor.

“Look-Alike” Species

Tansy ragwort can be distinguished from Woolly groundsel, *Senecio canus*, by its twice lobed leaves, 13 ray flowers and 13 bracts, and by having evenly distributed stem leaves.



Manual Treatment: Seed production can be prevented by repeated mowing before flowering is advanced. Plants mown after flowering can still set seed. Small infestations can be pulled by hand.



Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
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Flowers: 20 to 60 daisy-like flower heads, 2.5 cm across, with a yellow center of disk flowers and 10 to 15 ray flowers. Has a dense, flat-topped cluster at the top of stems. 10 to 15 bracts below the flower heads are black-tipped and arranged in a single row.



Leaves and Stems: Rosette and stem leaves are covered with cottony web-like hairs. First year rosette has 10 to 20 leaves, 5 to 25 cm long. One to several purple, branching stems develop in the second year. Stem leaves are alternate, evenly distributed along the stem, and decrease in size and stalk length at top of stem.



Seeds: Light brown, cylindrical, slightly ribbed seeds, 1.5 to 3 mm long with a pappus of soft white bristles attached to the tip.

Roots: Small taproot with fibrous roots and fleshy lateral roots.

Reproduction and Dispersal: Primarily by seed. Dispersed by wind, water, animals, vehicles and human activities. Root fragments can also re-sprout.



Habitat Preference: Disturbed areas, riparian areas, forests (especially after logging or clear-cutting), fields, croplands and roadsides. Prefers well drained soils.