

Lepidium virginicum

System: Terrestrial

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Plantae	Magnoliophyta	Magnoliopsida	Capparales	Brassicaceae

Common name Virginia cress (English), momili (English, Niue), Virginian peppergrass (English), Virginia pepperweed (English), wild peppergrass (English), culantrillo (Spanish), menstruz (Portuguese), mastuerzo (Spanish), mastruz (Portuguese), mancuerno (Spanish), lentejilla (Spanish), mastuerzo silvestre (Spanish), cresson savane (French), passeraie de Virginie (French), naunau (English, Cook Islands), cresson sauvage (French), poorman's-pepperwort (English), peppergrass (English), mastruço (Portuguese), escobilla (Spanish), poorman pepperweed (English), poorman's pepper (English), cresón (Spanish), lépidie de Virginie (French)

Synonym

Similar species

Summary

Lepidium virginicum is a weed of agronomic, vegetable, orchard, and nursery crops. It is reported to have naturalised on disturbed sites in Hawaii and the western United States, and spreading rapidly on Grand Cayman.



[view this species on IUCN Red List](#)

Notes

Five direct children have been recognised: *Lepidium virginicum* var. *medium* (Greene) C.L. Hitchc. (medium pepperweed); *Lepidium virginicum* var. *menziesii* (DC.) C.L. Hitchc. (Menzies' pepperweed); *Lepidium virginicum* var. *pubescens* (Greene) Thellung (hairy pepperweed); *Lepidium virginicum* var. *robinsonii* (Thellung) C.L. Hitchc. (Robinson's pepperweed); *Lepidium virginicum* var. *virginicum* L. (poorman's-pepperwort, Virginia pepperweed).

Management Info

Preventative measures: A [Risk Assessment of *Lepidium virginicum*](#) for the Pacific Region was prepared by Dr. Curtis Daehler (UH Botany) with funding from the Kaulunani Urban Forestry Program and US Forest Service. The alien plant screening system is derived from Pheloung *et al.* (1999) with minor modifications for use in Pacific islands (Daehler *et al.* 2004). The result is a high score of 17 and a recommendation of: "Likely to cause significant ecological or economic harm in Hawaii and on other Pacific Islands as determined by a high WRA score, which is based on published sources describing species biology and behavior in Hawaii and/or other parts of the world."

Principal source:

Compiler: IUCN SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) with support from the Overseas Territories Environmental Programme (OTEP) project XOT603, a joint project with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment

Review:

Publication date: 2010-11-10

ALIEN RANGE

[1] AUSTRALIA	[1] CAYMAN ISLANDS
[3] ECUADOR	[1] FRENCH POLYNESIA
[1] GUAM	[1] JAPAN
[3] NEW CALEDONIA	[1] NEW ZEALAND
[1] NIUE	[2] NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
[1] PALAU	[1] PHILIPPINES
[1] PUERTO RICO	[1] SOLOMON ISLANDS
[4] TONGA	[9] UNITED STATES
[2] UNITED STATES MINOR OUTLYING ISLANDS	

BIBLIOGRAPHY

5 references found for *Lepidium virginicum*

Management information

[Pacific Island Ecosystems at Risk \(PIER\), 2009a. *Lepidium virginicum* L., Brassicaceae](#)

Summary: Available from: http://www.hear.org/pier/species/lepidium_virginicum.htm [Accessed 5 October 2010]

[Pacific Island Ecosystems at Risk \(PIER\), 2009b. Risk Assessment: *Lepidium virginicum* L., Brassicaceae](#)

Summary: Available from: http://www.hear.org/pier/wra/pacific/lepidium_virginicum_htmlwra.htm [Accessed 5 October 2010]

General information

[Integrated Taxonomic Information System \(ITIS\), 2010. *Lepidium virginicum* L.](#)

Summary: Available from: http://www.itis.gov/servlet/SingleRpt/SingleRpt?search_topic=TSN&search_value=22955 [Accessed 5 October 2010]

[USDA, NRCS, 2010. *Lepidium virginicum* L. Virginia pepperweed. The PLANTS Database. National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, LA 70874-4490 USA.](#)

Summary: Available from: <http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=LEVI3> [Accessed 5 October 2010]

Varnham, K. 2006 (Updated 2009). Database of non-native species occurring in UK Overseas Territories. JNCC Report 372, Peterborough, United Kingdom.