SLOUGH THISTLE (CIRSIUM CRASSICAULE)

California Native Plant Society List 1B



Description

Slough thistle is an herbaceous plant in the aster family (Asteraceae) that may have an annual or perennial life span. The stems are 3 to 10 feet (1 to 3 m) tall, as much as 4 inches (10 cm) wide at the base, and thinly covered with cobwebby hairs. The long (up to 28 inches or 70 cm), prickly leaves are deeply lobed and also are covered with cobwebby hairs. Slough thistle has numerous flower heads, each consisting of many narrow, tubular, pinkishpurple or white flowers. It blooms from May to August.

Habitat/Range

This species grows in fresh water along the margin of sloughs, ditches, and streams in San Joaquin, Kings, and Kern counties.

Photo: Not yet available.

References

- CalFlora: Information on California plants for education, research and conservation. [web application]. 2000. Berkeley, California: The CalFlora Database [a nonprofit organization]. Available: URL: http://www.calflora.org/. [Accessed: September 5, 2002]
- Keil, D.J., and C.E. Turner. 1993. Cirsium. Pages 232-239 in The Jepson manual: higher plants of California (J.C. Hickman, editor). University of California Press, Berkeley, CA, 1400 pp.
- Tibor, D.P., editor. 2001. California Native Plant Society's Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California. Sixth edition. California Native Plant Society, Sacramento, 387 pp.