

## PADDY'S LUCERNE

*Sida rhombifolia*

HERBACEOUS

**Family** Malvaceae**Origin** Australian tropical regions

**Description** An erect, perennial herb growing 30-150 cm high. Occurs in waste grounds, road sides and disturbed ground in high rainfall areas <sup>8</sup>.

**Stems/Leaves** Alternate leaves lanceolate to linear-oblong in shape, and sometimes rhombic <sup>7</sup>. Dull green coloured leaves above and grey-green below. Leaves with toothed margins <sup>8</sup>. Stems finely stellate-pubescent (with a covering of short, weak, soft hairs that are star shaped) <sup>7</sup>.

**Flowers** Solitary flowers, at times 3-4 on the ends of branches. Flowers yellow to pale orange in colour <sup>7</sup>.

**Fruit/Seed** Capsule 5-6 mm in diameter, that is wrinkled with 2 spikes <sup>7</sup>. Dispersal via animals <sup>8</sup>.

**Root system** Deep taproot up to 40cm <sup>8</sup>.

**Removal techniques**

**Manual** Dig out the entire plant including the taproot. Take care as the plant tends to break at the base of the stem <sup>8</sup>.

**Chemical** Cut and paint with glyphosate <sup>8</sup>.

**Notes**

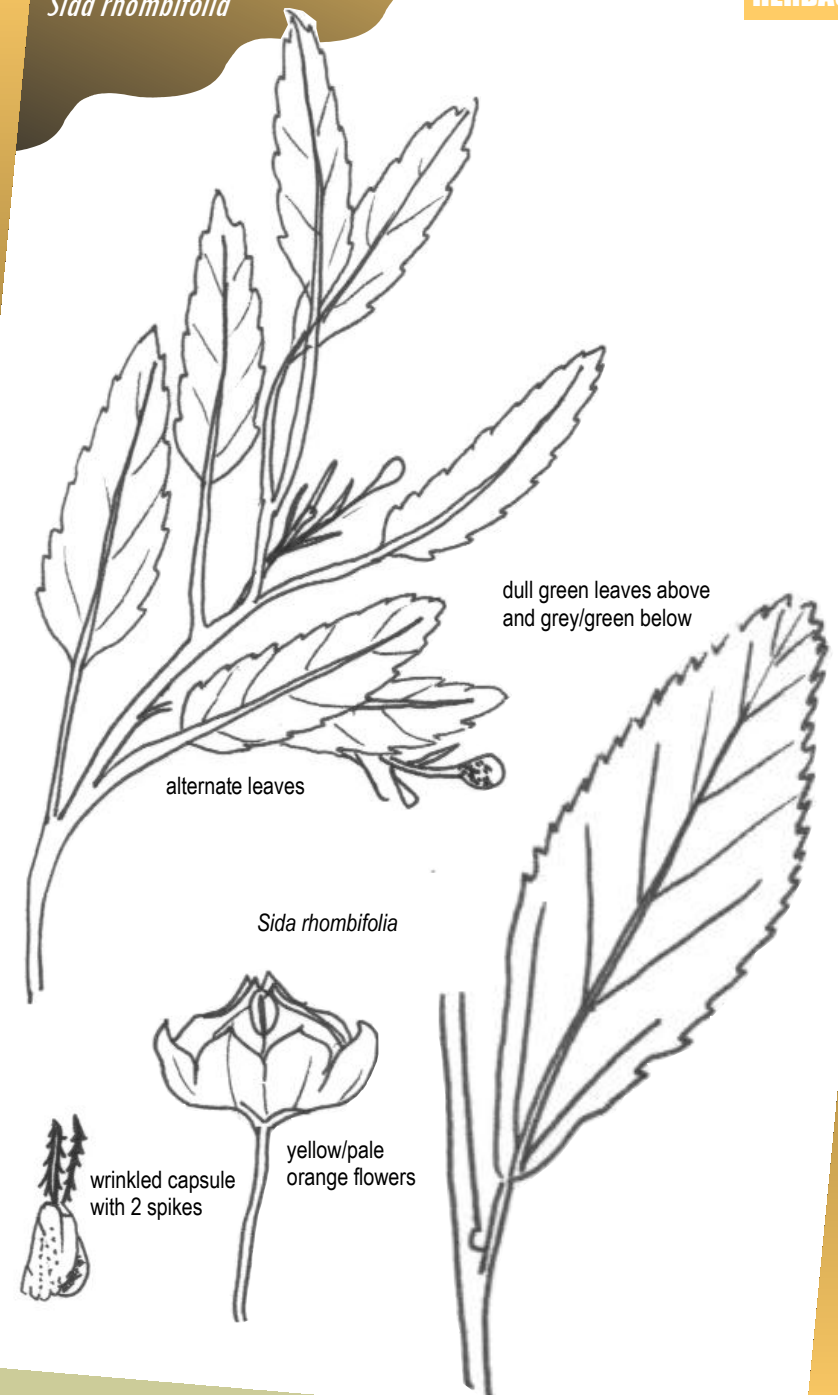
The seed remains viable for years <sup>8</sup>.

After cool fire events the plant re-shoots <sup>8</sup>.

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