

# PERENNIAL PEPPERWEED

*Lepidium latifolium* L.



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<b>Mature Height</b>	Up to 8 feet	<b>Soil Type</b>	Prefers Moist areas
<b>Mature Spread</b>	Two to four feet	<b>Flower Color</b>	White
<b>Mature Form</b>	Erect	<b>Foliage Color</b>	Green
<b>Growth Rate</b>	Rapid	<b>Fall Color</b>	Brown and brittle stems and seed pods
<b>Sun Exposure</b>	Prefers full sun		
<b>Soil Moisture</b>	Prefers wet, tolerates dry		

Pepperweed is a native of southern Europe and into Asia and is widespread in the western United States and is creeping in to the Eastern States. It has been identified in two northwestern Indiana counties and in northeastern Illinois as well as in New England. As seen in the picture below (right) it is highly invasive and can quickly take over native areas. It spreads by seed and by extensive underground root systems that grow up to 6 feet from the stem.. The plant has multiple stems and grows to heights of up to 8 feet. Pepperweed is a member of the mustard family. Leaves have a waxy appearance. It is toxic to livestock and has been found to inhibit growth of cottonwood and willow trees along waterways in the west. If you suspect you see this plant contact your local Purdue Extension Service Office.



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This fact sheet was developed by the West Central Indiana Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) with funding by the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust. The CWMA consists of 27 western and central Indiana counties and strives to help land users identify and control invasive terrestrial plants through workshops, field days and other educational activities.

