

2017 Weed Identification Series



Galinsoga (Quickweed)

Galinsoga is a broadleaf summer annual common in urban areas and in vegetable crops. Seeds can germinate in early spring through summer.

Leaves: Opposite leaves typically longer ($\frac{3}{4}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ in) than wide ($\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ in). Blades have toothed/serrated margins with fine hairs.

Stems: Can be simple but are usually branched and up to 2 feet tall. Stems are hairy but the degree depends on the species (hairy galinsoga has more hair).

Flowers: Small flowers ($\frac{1}{8}$ - $\frac{1}{4}$ in wide) are at the end of stalks extending from where the leaf attaches to the stem. Typically, 5 white flowers (which look

like petals with 2-3 lobes) surround yellow flowers. Galinsoga flowers from June to October.

Biology: Galinsoga is referred to as quickweed due to its fast growth and because seeds do not have a dormancy requirement and therefore can germinate in the same season they are produced.

Similar Plants: Several species of galinsoga are common to Wisconsin including hairy and small flower galinsoga. They can be difficult to distinguish but smallflower galinsoga has smaller leaves, flowers, and less hairy stems than hairy galinsoga. Control is similar with all species.