


ABOUT

- Annual herb, growing up to 1,5m high
- Stem erect, longitudinally grooved, hairy with a deep tap root
- Leaves broad, deeply lobed, pale green and hairy.
- Small white flowers in compact heads, each flower has five distinct “petals”.
- Small black seeds about 2mm long, distributed by wind and animals
- After germination, *Parthenium* grows in a rosette of lobed leaves
- Found in many regions



ALIEN WATCH



BOTANICAL SOCIETY NAMIBIA

Parthenium hysterophorus



Famine Weed, Feverfew, Demoinabossie



THREATS

- Highly invasive due to short lifecycle. One plant can set thousands of seeds within four weeks
- Skin and respiratory irritant
- Crop yield losses and seed contamination.
- Meat and milk from livestock that has consumed the plant becomes tainted and unfit for consumption.
- Inhibits growth and seed germination of other plants.
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