

*Tribulus terrestris*

# Puncturevine

Other common names: goathead, Mexican sandbur, tackweed, and caltrop



Zygophyllaceae, the caltrop family  
Category: CONTAINMENT



## Diagnostic Characteristics

- Prostrate summer annual that forms dense mats up to 8 feet wide
- Leaves opposite, even-pinnately compound, hairy, and have 4-8 leaflet pairs per leaf
- Flowers are bright yellow with 5 petals and borne solitary in leaf axils
- Fruits roughly circular with 10 spines; mature burs can injure people and animals and puncture bicycle tires

## Background

- Native to the Mediterranean
- Inhabits sandy, dry, or gravelly sites
- Reproduces by seed

Photo Credit:

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