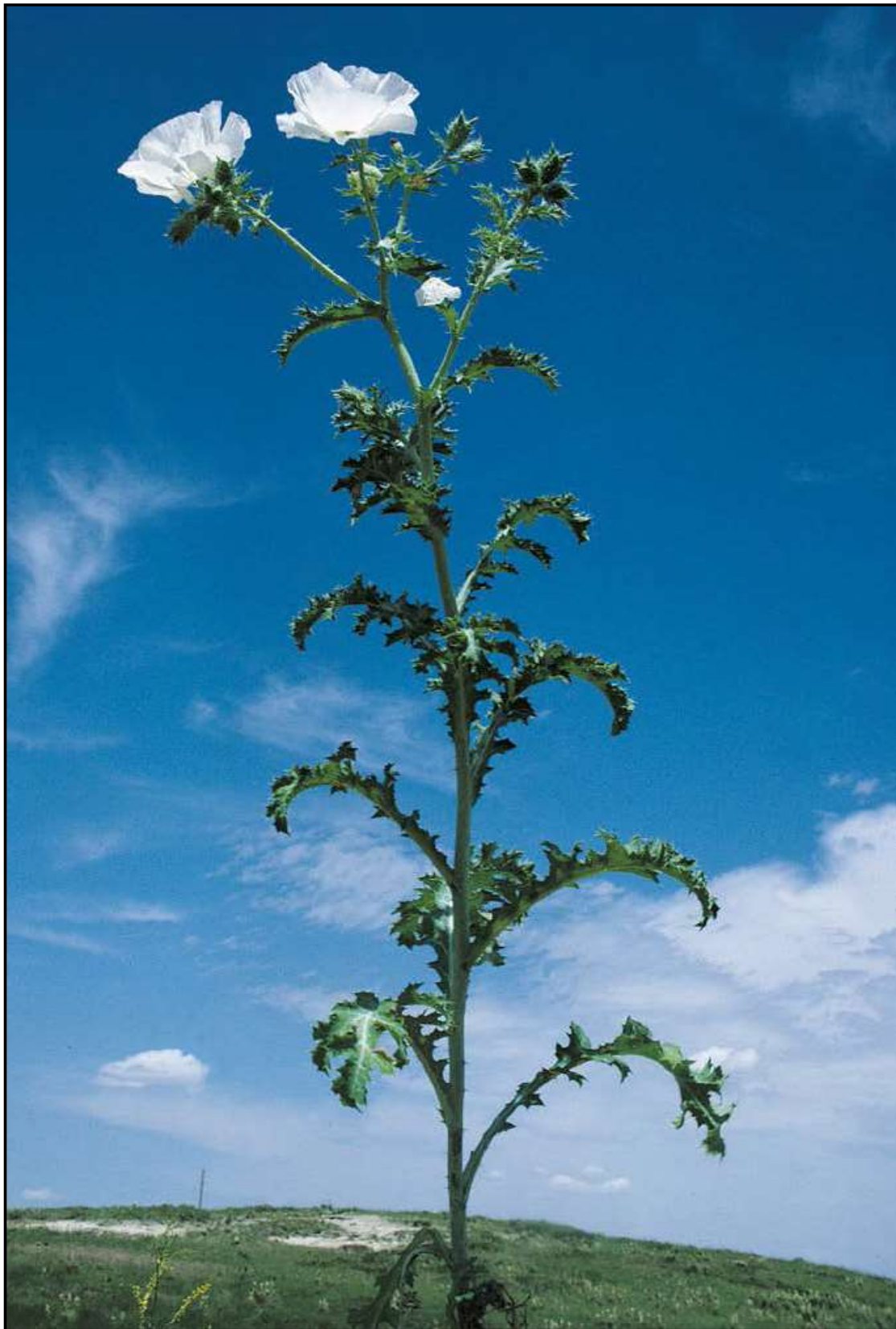


Annual pricklepoppy

Argemone polyanthemos (Fedde) G.B. Ownbey



Annual pricklepoppy
Papaveraceae
(Poppy family)

Annual pricklepoppy has erect, prickly, sparingly branched stems up to 3 feet tall. The entire plant contains a yellow sap. Leaves are grayish-green, coarsely lobed, spiny on margins and midrib. Flowers are terminal, large, white. Seeds are small, round blackish-brown, ridged on one side.

Annual pricklepoppy is a native plant to the Rocky Mountain region occurring in pastures, waste areas, and along roadsides. It is seldom abundant and can be an indicator of overgrazing. Its spines make it undesirable for livestock feed. The prickles have been known to irritate the skin of some people. Although it produces beautiful flowers, it is generally considered a nuisance because of its unpalatability.



Yellow spines along the main stem and leaves prevent livestock from using this plant.



Large showy flowers with yellow centers blossom in late summer.