

## Plumeless thistle

*Carduus acanthoides*

Asteraceae, the sunflower family

Category: Containment

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### Background:

- Introduced from Europe
- Hybridizes with musk thistle
- Found in pastures, fields, roadsides and disturbed sites

### Description:

- Winter annual to biennial, grows 3 to 6 feet tall
- Rosette is spiny lobed
- Stems with spiny wings extending right to the flowerheads
- Purple flower heads, 1 inch across, smaller than musk thistle
- Bracts on flower head are thin spines



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