Salvia aethiopis

Mediterranean Sage

Other common names:
African sage

Lamiaceae, the mint family
Category: CONTROL

Diagnostic Characteristics

- Biennial; grows up to 3 feet tall
- Rosette leaves are ovate to triangular, have petioles, are irregularly lobed to deeply incised, and 4 to 12 inches long
- Stems, new leaves, and leaf lower surfaces are densely covered with fine white, wooly hairs
- Upper leaves are smaller than lower leaves and clasp stem
- Stems are square
- Flowers are white to yellowish and borne in clusters on profusely branched stems

Background

- Native to Europe
- Inhabits rangelands, disturbed areas, rights-of-way, and open forests; prefers dry areas
- Reproduces by seed; mature plants break off and tumble in the wind
- Crushed leaves have sage odor

Photo Credit:
J.M. DiTomasso, Regents of the University of California