

Cytisus scoparius

Scotch Broom

Other common names:
English broom

Fabaceae, the pea family
Category: CONTROL



Diagnostic Characteristics

- Evergreen shrub; grows up to 10 feet tall
- Green stems are photosynthetic, ridged, and have 5 distinct angles or ridges
- Leaves are typically compound with 3 leaflets that are oblong to obovate shaped
- Flowers are pea-like, showy, bright yellow, and occasionally have red markings in the center
- Mature seed pods are dark brown to black, flattened, smooth (except for hair along the margins), and have beanlike seeds which can eject a short distance

Background

- Native to Europe; introduced as an ornamental
- Inhabits disturbed sites, rights-of-way, non-crop areas, pastures, and forests
- Reproduces by seed

Photo Credit:

J.M DiTomaso, Regents of the University of California

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