

# Common burdock

*Arctium minus* (Hill) Bernh.



## Life cycle

Biennial.

## Leaves

Plant forms a large-leaved basal rosette in the first year. Leaves are large, alternate, wavy and broadest at the base with hollow petioles. The upper leaf surface is dark green; the undersurface is light green and woolly.

## Stems

Hollow, hairy, grooved stems elongate from the rosette during the second year. Stems are

branched and can grow to 5 feet tall.

## Flowers and fruit

Purple flower heads are encircled by hook-like bracts that dry to form a bur. The seed is enclosed in the burs, which make dissemination easy by attaching to fur or clothing.



Common burdock flowers and fruit.

## Reproduction

Seeds.



Young common burdock plant.



Mature common burdock plant.

**Asteraceae (Aster family)**