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Marsh yellowcress

Rorippa palustris L. (Bess)

Life cycle

Taprooted annual or biennial. Occasionally, a weak perennial.

Leaves

Alternate, variably shaped leaves initially develop from a basal rosette. Leaves are deeply lobed with a large terminal lobe and three to seven other lobes. The upper stem leaves are smaller with lobed to toothed margins and, occasionally, winged petioles with earlobe-shaped bases.

Stems

Branched or unbranched stems arise from a basal rosette to flower, usually less than 2 feet in height.



Marsh yellowcress rosette.

Brassicaceae (Mustard family)

Marsh yellowcress *continued*

Flowers and fruit

Small, light yellow flowers with four petals are found in terminal clusters. Fruit are small, globe- to short cylinder-shaped capsules with a slight upward curve. Each capsule contains numerous, tiny, yellowish brown seeds.

Reproduction

Seeds.



Marsh yellowcress flower.



Marsh yellowcress plant.

Marsh yellowcress *continued*

Similar weeds

Yellow fieldcress

[*Rorippa sylvestris* (L.) Bess.]

Differs by having a perennial nature with prolific, aggressive creeping roots and more deeply lobed leaves. Flowers are more conspicuous and brightly colored. Capsules are smaller and usually do not contain seeds.



Yellow fieldcress rosette.



Yellow fieldcress leaf.



Yellow fieldcress flower.

Brassicaceae (Mustard family)