

Wild mustard

Sinapis arvensis L.

Life cycle

Erect winter or summer annual.

Leaves

Seedlings have smooth, kidney-shaped cotyledons and prominently veined, bristly hairy leaves that initially develop from a basal rosette. Lower leaves are irregularly lobed and toothed with petioles; upper leaves are alternate, stalkless to short-stalked with coarsely toothed margins and pointed tips, gradually becoming smaller toward the top.



Wild mustard lower leaf.

Stems

Erect, up to 3-foot-tall stems bolt from a basal rosette to flower. Stems are bristly hairy at the base, often branched and nearly hairless at the top.



Wild mustard *continued*

Flowers and fruit

Bright yellow flowers with four petals are found in terminal clusters. Fruit are 1- to 2-inch-long, cylinder-shaped capsules with a four-angled beak at the tip that contain round, black to purple seeds.

Reproduction

Seeds.



Kidney-shaped cotyledons of wild mustard.



Wild mustard flower.



Wild mustard fruit.