

Pineapple-weed

Matricaria matricarioides (syn. *Matricaria discoidea*)

Sunflower Family

Key identifying traits

- ❑ Plant stems grow erect up to 1' tall
- ❑ Leaves are divided into short narrow segments
- ❑ Heads are cone-shaped and a yellowish green color with each head surrounded by overlapping bracts with no ray petals
- ❑ Crushed heads give off a odor likened to pineapple

Biology and ecology

- An annual plant reproducing by seeds
- Pineapple-weed is a native to western North America but now considered naturalized in the U.S.
- It is a nuisance in lawns and gardens and is also found in croplands and along roadsides
- Similar to mayweed chamomile which has a unpleasant odor and white ray flowers

Control

Prevention - Learn to identify plants; start monitoring early in the season

Biological - No known biological control in our area

Cultural - Plant competitive grass or other cover crops

Mechanical - It can be hand pulled but does not effectively mowed

Chemical -the [PNW Weed Management handbook](#) does not have it listed as a problem weed but other sources list mixtures such as Trimec as effective. Also a pre-emergent herbicide application can help prevent seed germination

**University of California lists Chamomilla suaveolens as the scientific name* of this plant.*

Where found –Scattered throughout the county; seen in many gardens, lawns, and driveways.



Tom Heutte, USDA Forest Service, www.forestryimages.org