

Chenopodium album L., LAMB'S QUARTERS, PIGWEED. Annual, taprooted, 1–several-stemmed at base, with many ascending lateral branches, erect to sprawling, in range to 300 cm tall; shoots with only cauline leaves, initially with dense, short, grayish, turgid hairs (conspicuous on young parts), becoming powdery (farinose) and eventually glabrate, not scented. **Stems:** several-angled aging cylindrical, with a ridge descending from each leaf, ± tough, light green to reddish alternating with softer, dark green tissue. **Leaves:** helically alternate, simple, petiolate, without stipules; petiole 7–17 mm long; blade rhombate-ovate to narrowly lanceolate or narrowly elliptic, in range 16–40 × 6–21 mm, grading into smaller bracts, broadly to narrowly tapered at base, coarsely wavy-dentate to wavy-serrate on upper 3/4 margins or entire (upper canopy leaves), acute to obtuse at tip, 3-veined at base (1-veined on narrow blades) with principal veins raised on lower surface, initially farinose, upper surface dull green becoming glabrate, lower surface remaining farinose but becoming glabrate on raised veins. **Inflorescence:** panicle of dense cymes (glomes), each branchlet with 1–13 glomes, glomes subspheric, 3–4.5 mm, composed of 4–15 sessile to subsessile flowers; bract subtending or remotely subtending branchlets lanceolate to linear, 7–33 × 1–11 mm, entire to dentate on margins, farinose, often early deciduous; bract sometimes subtending glome, linear, 2–7 × 0.2–0.7 mm; bractlet subtending flower absent. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, 0.5 mm across when styles are exerted, expanding to 1.5 mm as ovary matures, nonshowy, protogynous; **perianth** 5-lobed, fused at base for ± 0.4 mm, calyxlike; lobes initially overlapping but not overlapping in fruit, broadly ovate, 0.7–9 mm long increasing to 1.2 mm in fruit, green and whitish on margins, densely farinose, becoming keeled; **stamens** 5, opposite perianth lobes and slightly fused at base; filaments < 1 mm long, white translucent; anthers dorsifixed, dithecal, < 0.5 mm long, light yellow, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen light yellow; **pistil** 1; ovary superior, horizontal and depressed-ovoid, ± 1 mm diameter, green, 1-chambered with 1 ovule; style 0.2–0.3 mm long, deeply 2-branched with very short, conic base, base green, the branches light yellowish, stigmatic at least from midpoint. **Fruit:** achene (utricle), wall thin, fleshy, and blisterlike when immature aging thin and typically adherent to seed when dry and mature. **Seed:** horizontal, depressed-ovoid to ± lenticular with circular outline distorted by tip of radicle, in range 1–1.2 mm wide, shiny and very dark brown to blackish, smooth but faintly radially ridged and minutely pitted (> 25×). Late July–early November.

Naturalized. Annual occurring throughout the range in disturbed habitats, especially by agricultural fields. *Chenopodium album* is a very widespread, Old World weed that has many variations and forms, as it is presently defined, so our populations represent only a portion of the variability of *C. album* recorded across the U. S. In our materials, when the fruit wall dries and thins, it is strongly adherent to the seed coat.

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