

COMMON NAME:
CAMPHORWEED

SCIENTIFIC NAME:
HETEROTHECA PSAMMOPHILA

ALSO CALLED: HETEROTHECA SUBAXILLARIS, TELEGRAPH PLANT, AND TELEPHONE POLE WEED

FLOWER COLOR: YELLOW
FLOWER ARRANGEMENT: LARGE CLUSTERS AT THE END OF BRANCHES
FLOWERING TIME: JULY TO NOVEMBER
LEAVES: STEMMED AND STEMLESS WITH SERRATED EDGES
NORMAL SIZE: 4' TO 6'
NORMAL ELEVATION: 4000' TO 6000'
HABITATION: ROADSIDES AND DEPRESSIONS
ABUNDANCE: COMMON

NOTABLE DETAILS: HERBACEOUS TALL MULTI-STEMMED PLANT WITH MUCH BRANCHING AT THE UPPER THIRD, COVERED IN HAIRS AND MANY LARGE YELLOW FLOWERS

SPECIAL INTEREST: CRUSHING THE LEAVES PRODUCES A CAMPHOR SMELL, AND THE PLANTS TALL FEATURE EARNED THE NAME OF TELEGRAPH OF TELEPHONE POLE WEED, AND ALSO PERHAPS DISTURBING THE SOIL TO INSTALL POLES, CAUSED THESE PLANTS TO FLOURISH AROUND THE POLES. OTHERS SAY IT SMELLS LIKE CREOSOTE. IT LINES THE ROAD OF MUCH OF THE STATE AT THE PREFERRED ELEVATIONS.