

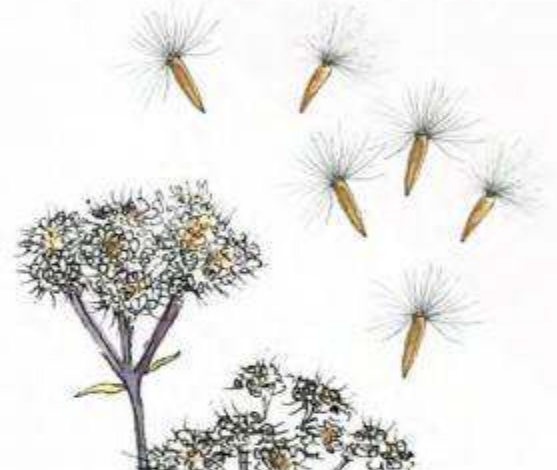
SPECIES: *AGERATINA ADENOPHORA*

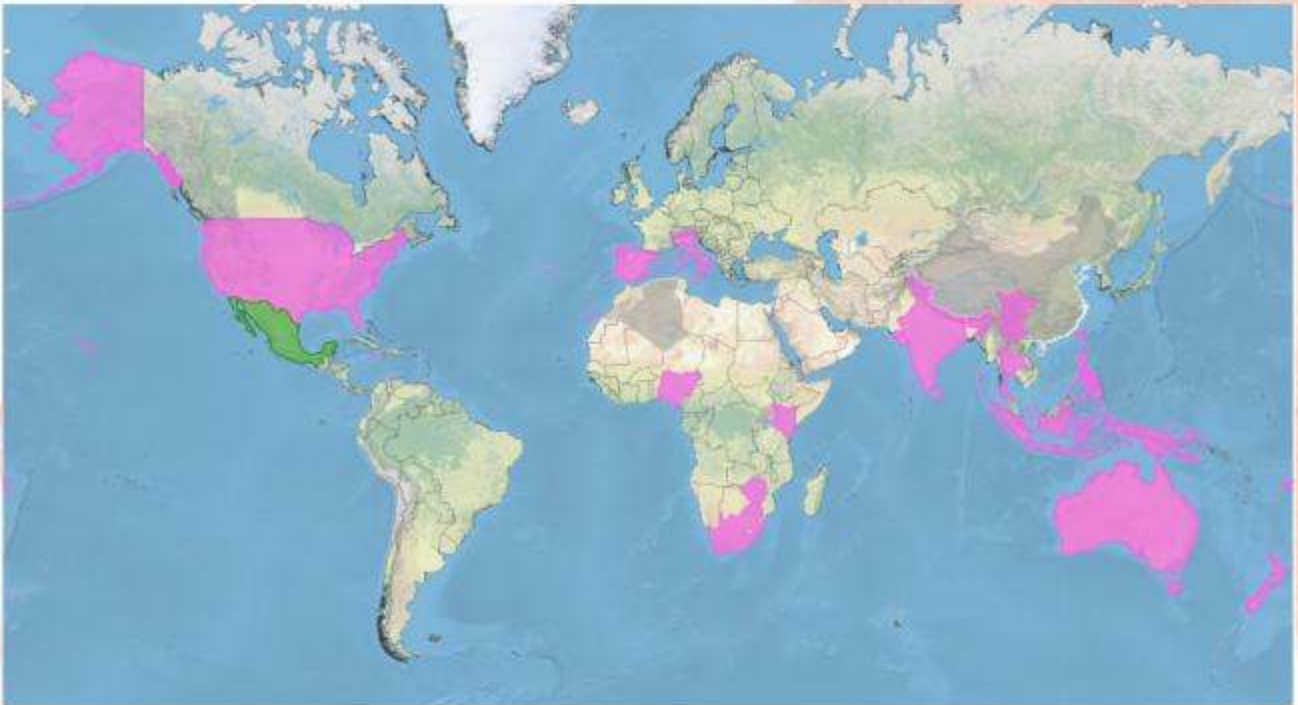
COMMON NAME: CROFTON WEED

FAMILY: ASTERACEAE

Plant Description

A perennial weed that can grow up to 1.5 m in height, forming dense stands. Shoots are cylindrical and purple in colour. Young shoots are hairy, but become smooth as they get older. Leaves are trowel-shaped, dark green in colour, and oppositely arranged. Flowers are white and occur in flat clusters at the ends of the shoots. It has high reproductive potential, with each plant able to produce more than 3000 seeds that are wind- and water-dispersed. The plant is also able to spread vegetatively, from the rootstock. Although it prefers open areas, it can grow in the shade if soil is fertile.





CABI, 2022. *Ageratina adenophora*. In: Invasive Species Compendium. Wallingford, UK: CAB International. <https://www.cabi.org/isc/datasheet/23243#toDistributionMaps> [accessed: 25/01/2022]

■ Introduced
■ Native
■ Origin not recorded

***Ageratina adenophora* ASTERACEAE**

Origin: Mexico

Introduction: It was introduced to India as an ornamental plant. It was first reported in India in 1924.

Impacts: It has been reported to alter soil microbiology in ways that facilitate its growth at the expense of other native species. It is also reported to suppress crops such as rice. It is poisonous to cattle.

Management: Mechanical removal, e.g., by uprooting, has not been effective due to the plant's ability to regenerate from buried seeds. Biological control has been attempted, e.g., with a parasitic fruit fly (in China), with a stem galling fly and a leaf-spot fungus (in Africa), but with limited success.