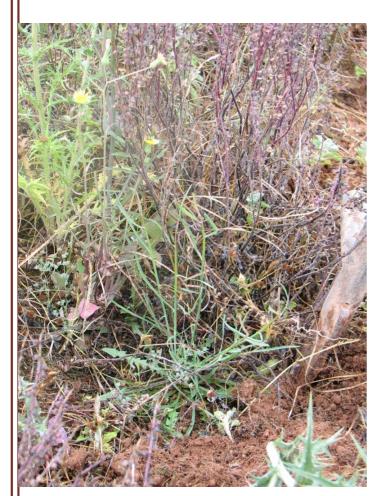


Skeleton Weed

Chondrilla juncea

Natural History Society of South Australia Inc.



Skeleton Weed hidden amongst several other weeds

Declared plant in South Australia 2013

Native to southwest Asia and the Mediterranean. Accidentally introduced around 1900.

Description

A perennial plant to 1 metre high appearing as a rosette of dark green, toothed leaves flat on the ground in Spring.

Stems erect to 1 metre high, tough, widely branching, with scattered leaves; ooze thick milky latex when broken.

Flower heads widely spaced, daisy-like, 1 cm wide with numerous strap-shaped yellow florets, Dec-Apr.

Seeds 4-5 mm long with an umbrella-like arrangement of bristles on a stalk at one end.

Root, a deep taproot.

(www.dpti.sa.gov.au)



Skeleton Weed seedling



Characteristic milky sap oozes from broken stem or root



Flower detail