

## Common lambsquarters

*Chenopodium album* L.

### Life cycle

Erect summer annual.

### Leaves

Cotyledons are oblong, narrow and linear with no midvein and a dull green to gray cast. The first one or two leaf pairs are opposite; all remaining leaves are alternate. Mature leaves are highly variable, being triangle-, diamond- or lance-shaped and light green above with gray, mealy undersides. Lower leaves have a petiole and irregular wavy to shallowly toothed margins. Young or newly emerged leaves often have a gray, mealy coating on both surfaces.

Common lambsquarters seedling.



Common lambsquarters cotyledons do not have midveins.



Common lambsquarters leaf.

## Common lambsquarters *continued*

### Stems

Erect, moderately branched central stem up to 6 feet in height. Mature stems are vertically grooved with red, purple or light green stripes.

### Flowers and fruit

Green, inconspicuous flowers are found in dense, granular clusters at the stem ends. Round to oval, somewhat flattened, black to brown, shiny seeds are enclosed by a star-shaped, papery covering.

### Reproduction

Seeds.



Common lambsquarters plant.

**Chenopodiaceae (Goosefoot family)**

## Common lambsquarters *continued*



Mature seedhead of common lambsquarters.

### Similar weeds

#### **Atriplex** (*Atriplex patula* L.)

Differs by having larger cotyledons, a more branching, spreading habit due to the opposite arrangement of the first several pairs of leaves and branches, and leaf bases with a lobe on each side.

## Common lambsquarters *continued*



Atriplex seedling.



Atriplex leaf base with a lobe on each side.



Atriplex plant.