

Puncturevine

Tribulus terrestris L.

Life cycle

Prostrate, mat-forming summer annual.

Leaves

Opposite, even pinnately compound, with many small, oblong leaflets.

Stems

Prostrate, covered with stiff hairs and branching in all directions, forming circular mats.



Puncturevine seedling.



Puncturevine leaf.

Puncturevine *continued*

Flowers and fruit

Flowers are small with five yellow petals. Pod-like fruit are woody with five triangular burs and sharp spines. Spines are stout enough to puncture tires.

Reproduction

Seeds.



Puncturevine flower.



Puncturevine fruit.