

***BIDENS ALBA* (ASTERACEAE) NEW TO THE TENNESSEE FLORA**

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ABSTRACT

Bidens alba var. *radiata* is reported for the first time as naturalized in Tennessee, where found as a weed adjacent to a parking lot in the city of Clarksville. The species is known to be naturalized in southern states around Tennessee, including Kentucky, Alabama, South Carolina, and Georgia.

Based on the following specimen, *Bidens alba* (L.) DC. is documented here as naturalized in Tennessee. Montgomery Co.: city of Clarksville, off Interstate Hwy 24 near the intersection of Wilma Rudolph Blvd. and South Hampton Place, adjacent to a parking lot and weedy field near an apartment complex (36° 35'28.964" N, 87° 17'58.156" W), 9 Nov 2016, *Kraft 001* (APSC).

Bidens alba is native to the American tropics, Asia, and Africa and has since spread and naturalized around the world. In the USA it is a weedy invasive in Hawaii, Alabama, Kentucky, Georgia, South Carolina, and other states throughout the South. The nearest population of *B. alba* is from Madison Co., Kentucky (Kartesz 2014).

Bidens alba is characterized as having broadly spatulate involucre bracts, heads with 5-8 white rays, ligules 2 times longer than broad, simple leaflets, 2-awned achenes, and a tetraploid chromosome number (Ballard 1986). Plants of the species in the southeastern USA are identified as *B. alba* var. *radiata* (Sch.-Bip.) Ballard ex Melchert (Weakley 2015).



Figure 1. *Bidens alba* in Montgomery Co., Tennessee. Photo by Josh Kraft, 9 Nov 2016.

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