

BULL THISTLE

(Cirsium vulgare(Savi)tenore)

GROWTH HABIT: Biennial, erect, many spreading branches. Rosette formed first year, flowering stem elongates second year.

LEAVES: Green, sparsely hairy, with short prickles on the surface, cottony below, sharp spines on the margins.

STEMS: Stout, 2 to 5 feet tall with spiny wings from leaves.

FLOWER: Terminal, more or less clustered, 1½ to 2 inches wide, flowers dark purple, bracts spine tipped.

ROOTS: Short fleshy taproot.

SEEDS: Straw colored, striped lengthwise with brown or black, a protrusion at one end.

