

# LAMBSQUARTER

(*Chenopodium album*)

**GROWTH HABIT:** Mature plant is erect; can grow up to 5 feet tall, depending on moisture and soil fertility. Leaves are generally dull and pale gray green, triangular egg-shaped to lance-shaped, about  $\frac{2}{5}$  to 2 inches long, and have thin stalks that are about half as long as the leaf blade. Lower leaves usually have three main veins that extend from the base that are usually less than  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times the width. Leaf surfaces, especially on new growth, are covered with a fine white powdery coating. Stems are single or may have a few rigid, angled branches and are sometimes striped purplish red.

**SEEDS:** Tiny; plants produce two types—smaller black seeds and larger brown ones.

**LEAVES and STEMS:** Fleshy; overall plant is coarsely hairy. Basal leaves are narrowly oblong; mid leaves are progressively smaller up the stem, and the upper leaves are sessile (no petiole) or clasping.

**FLOWER:** Flowers bloom from May through November. Tiny, green, stalkless flowers are packed in dense clusters at the tips of the main stem and branches. The tiny flowers lack petals, and like the leaves, are also covered in a white powdery coating.

