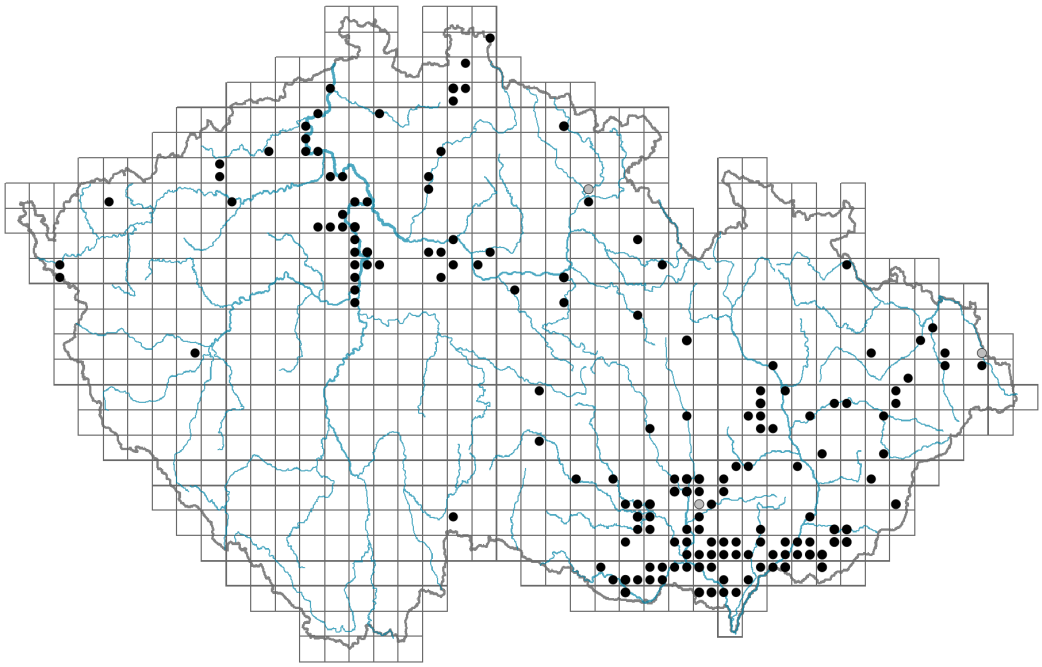
Xanthium spinosum

Distribution





Map info

revised records

unrevised records

On the map are not visualized records without the coordinates and records marked as incorrect or doubtful.









Habitus and growth type

Height [m]: **0.2–0.8**
Growth form: **annual herb**
Life form: **therophyte**
Life strategy: **CR – competitor/ruderal**

Leaf

Leaf presence and metamorphosis: **leaves present, not modified**
Leaf arrangement (phyllotaxis): **alternate, opposite**
Leaf shape: **simple – entire**
Stipules: **absent**
Petiole: **present**
Leaf life span: **summer green**
Leaf anatomy: **scleromorphic**

Flower

Flowering period [month]: **August–September**
Flower colour: **green**
Flower symmetry: **actinomorphic**
Perianth type: **calyx absent, corolla sometimes present**
Perianth fusion: **fused**

© 2014–2026 Pladias – Citation: Pladias – Database of the Czech Flora and Vegetation. www.pladias.cz







Shape of the sympetalous corolla or syntepalous perianth: **tubular**
Inflorescence type: **panicula ex anthodiis composita**
Dicliny: **monoecious**
Generative reproduction type: **mixed mating**
Pollination syndrome: **wind-pollination**

Fruit, seed and dispersal

Fruit type: **dry fruit – achene/cypsela/samara**
Fruit colour: **brown**
Reproduction type: **only by seed/spores**
Dispersal unit (diaspore): **fruit, infrutescence or its part**
Dispersal strategy: **Bidens (mainly autochory and epizoochory)**
Myrmecochory: **non-myrmecochorous (b)**

Belowground organs and clonality

Shoot life span (cyclicity): **monocyclic shoots prevailing**
Primary root: **present**

Bud bank

Number of buds per shoot at the soil surface (root buds excluded): **5**
Number of buds per shoot at a depth of 0–10 cm (root buds excluded): **0**
Number of buds per shoot at a depth greater than 10 cm (root buds excluded): **0**
Size of the belowground bud bank (root buds excluded): **5**
Depth of the belowground bud bank (root buds exluded) [cm]: **1**
Number of buds per shoot at the soil surface (root buds included): **5**
Number of buds per shoot at a depth of 0–10 cm (root buds included): **0**
Number of buds per shoot at a depth greater than 10 cm (root buds included): **0**
Size of the belowground bud bank (root buds included): **5**
Depth of the belowground bud bank (root buds included) [cm]: **1**

Trophic mode

Parasitism and mycoheterotrophy: **autotrophic**
Carnivory: **non-carnivorous**
Symbiotic nitrogen fixation: **no nitrogen-fixing symbionts**

Taxon origin

Origin in the Czech Republic: **neophyte**
Invasion status: **casual**
Geographic origin: **South America**
Year of the first record in the wild: **1840**
Period of introduction: **Late Modern Period (1800–1950)**
Introduction pathway: **unintentional – anthropogenic**

Ecological indicator values

Ellenberg-type indicator values

© 2014–2026 Pladias – Citation: Pladias – Database of the Czech Flora and Vegetation. www.pladias.cz

Light indicator value: **8 – light plant, only exceptionally occurring at less than 40% of diffuse radiation incident in an open area**
Temperature indicator value: **7 – heat indicator, occurring in relatively warm lowlands**
Moisture indicator value: **4 – transition between values 3 and 5**
Reaction indicator value: **7 – indicator of slightly acidic to slightly basic conditions, never occurring in very acidic conditions**
Nutrient indicator value: **8 – pronounced nutrient indicator**
Salinity indicator value: **2 – oligohaline, often on soils with very low salt content**

Habitat and sociology

Occurrence in habitats

13 Anthropogenic vegetation

13A Annual vegetation of ruderal habitats: **1 – rare occurrence**
13D Perennial thermophilous ruderal vegetation: **1 – rare occurrence**

Affinity to the forest environment

Affinity to the forest environment in Thermophyticum: **0 – taxon that does not spontaneously occur in Czech forests**
Affinity to the forest environment in Mesophyticum and Oreophyticum: **0 – taxon that does not spontaneously occur in Czech forests**

Distribution and frequency

Floristic zone: **subtropical, tropical, austral or antarctic**
Floristic region: **Americas**
Distribution range extension along the continentality gradient: **8**
Elevational belt in the Czech Republic: **lowlands, colline belt**
Occurrence frequency in the basic grid mapping cells and quadrants of the basic grid mapping cells: 109
taxon.data.freq_in_quad: 165

Commonness in vegetation plots from the Czech Republic

Occurrence frequency in vegetation plots: **0 %**
Occurrence frequency in vegetation plots with a cover above 5%: **50 %**
Occurrence frequency in vegetation plots with a cover above 25%: **0 %**
Occurrence frequency in vegetation plots with a cover above 50%: **0 %**
Mean percentage cover in vegetation plots: **8 %**
Maximum percentage cover in vegetation plots: **13 %**

Number of habitats with taxon occurrence in the Czech Republic

Number of narrow habitats in which the taxon occurs: **2**
Number of narrow habitats in which the taxon has its optimum: **0**
Number of broad habitats in which the taxon occurs: **1**
Number of broad habitats in which the taxon has its optimum: **0**

Threats and protection

Red List 2017 (national categories): **taxon is not on the Red List**
Red List 2017 (IUCN categories): **LC(NA) – least concern (taxon is not on the Red List)**

© 2014–2026 Pladias – Citation: Pladias – Database of the Czech Flora and Vegetation. www.pladias.cz

Legal protection: **not protected by law**

© 2014–2026 Pladias – Citation: Pladias – Database of the Czech Flora and Vegetation. www.pladias.cz