

To Be Added As Additional Taxa Under *Eschscholzia californica* In *Landscape Plants For Texas And Environs, Third Edition*:

***Argemone albiflora* J. Hornemann subsp. *texana* G. Ownbey Texas Prickly Poppy**

(*Argemone albiflora* var. *texana*)

- C Also known simply as White Prickly Poppy or White Pricklypoppy; this member of the *Papaveraceae* sports 40diameter glittering white flowers on 2Nto 4Ntall upright growing blue-green spiny thistle-like plants; the leaf margins, petioles, and stems are all covered with spines or prickles making this a plant to be enjoyed from a distance; leaves may appear mottled with darker and lighter green spots; when damaged a yellow sap is exuded.
- C The poppy-like tissue-paper textured six-petalled flowers can be spectacular en masse sometime between mid-spring and early summer, depending upon the year and location; a mass of yellow to yellow-red stamens can be found at the center of the flowers.
- C Plants may seed profusely to form large colonies in disturbed soils along roads and in fields or waste areas; this native is common in East and Central Texas; the prickly margins inhibit grazers, but are also a major maintenance liability and easily explain why this weedy species has not become a popular garden plant
- C Several other *Argemone* L. are native to our region; *Argemone chisosensis* G. Ownbey, Pink Prickly Poppy, has pink to lavender flowers; *Argemone mexicana* L., the Yellow Prickly Poppy has 20 diameter yellow flowers; and *Argemone sanguinea* E. Greene (*Argemone rosea*) has pink to rose-purple flowers; all three are more western in distribution than *A. albiflora* subsp. *texana*, with *A. sanguinea* blooming in early to mid-spring and the other two species blooming sporadically from spring to autumn depending upon rainfall patterns.

References: Enquist, 1987; Loughmiller and Loughmiller, 1984; Tveten and Tveten, 1993.

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