

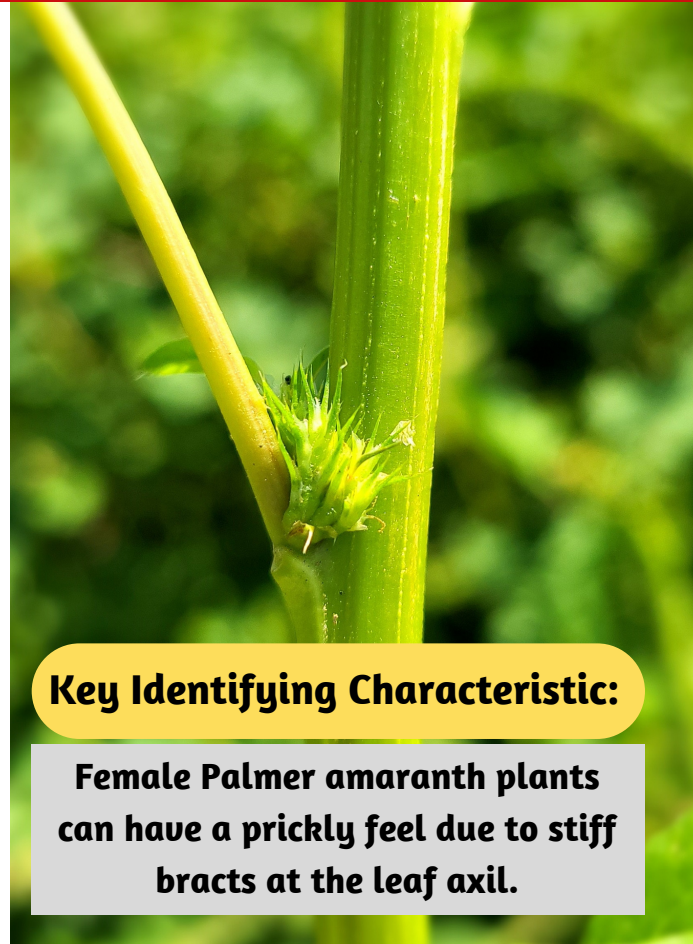


# Palmer Amaranth

(*Amaranthus palmeri*)



**Mature Palmer amaranth plant with long seed heads.**



## **Key Identifying Characteristic:**

**Female Palmer amaranth plants can have a prickly feel due to stiff bracts at the leaf axil.**





## **Key Identifying Characteristic:**

**When viewed from above, Palmer has a rosette like appearance where the leaves circle around the stem resembling a poinsettia.**



**Some Palmer plants have a white or purple watermark, occasionally u-shaped. However, other pigweed species may have a watermark as well.**



**Palmer leaf shape is wide and ovate or diamond shaped.**





**Key Identifying Characteristic:**

**Palmer amaranth stem and leaves are smooth (hairless).**



**Stems can be green, green with red stripes or red in color.**





**Key Identifying Characteristic:**

**Palmer amaranth will have petioles (the stalk that joins a leaf to a stem) as long as or longer than the leaf blade.**



**A single hair is often found in the leaf tip notch.**



**Palmer amaranth just starting to form flower buds.**



**Palmer can grow 3 - 8 feet tall. It will typically grow above a crop canopy before flowering.**

**Long terminal inflorescence**



**Palmer produces the longest terminal flower spikes (2 to 3 ft or more) among all 5 pigweed species of MD.**



**Palmer amaranth growing in a watermelon field.**







**Palmer has a well-developed taproot system that may be reddish in color. Lateral root branches arise from the main taproot system.**











**At the end of the summer, Palmer amaranth changes color to a lighter green. In the fall, its color changes to yellow, orange, and ultimately light to dark brown.**





**Palmer amaranth is a prolific seed producer, producing 100,000 – 500,000 seeds per plant. The seeds are dark reddish-brown to black in color and 1 to 1.3 mm long.**



**Palmer amaranth growing in a soybean field.**



**Palmer amaranth growing in a corn field.**

