

# Citrus Weed Spotlight

## Hemp sesbania

*Sesbania macrocarpa*

By Stephen H. Futch, David W. Hall and Brent Sellers

**LIFE CYCLE:** Herbaceous annual

**HEIGHT:** 3 to 13 feet tall

**LEAVES:** Alternate; stalked; short-petiole; blades divided with 20 to 70 opposite leaflets that are narrow oblong and one-half to 1 inch in length; hairs often present on the underside of leaflets

**STEM:** Green, erect, smooth, branching, may become woody with age, round to slightly angled

**FLOWERS:** Yellow to red color, pea-shaped; five partially fused petals, one-third- to one-half-inch long; borne in leaf axils

**FRUIT:** Linear pod, narrow and long and becomes four-sided, up to 7 inches long; contains up to 30 to 40 seeds per pod. At maturity, the pod breaks open to release seeds.

**SEEDS:** Brown, mottled with black color, two times longer than wide

**PROPAGATED BY:** Seed

**COMMENTS:** Commonly found in pasture, moist areas, ditches, canals and roadsides, and becomes extremely weedy. Native to North America and found throughout Florida, north to New York and west to California. Many species contain toxins causing colic, diarrhea and weakness.

**CONTROL:** No chemical recommendations in citrus, as control will vary due to location. Glyphosate and paraquat will control plants if adequate coverage is provided and when plants are small. 🍊

*Stephen H. Futch is a University of Florida multi-county Extension agent at the Citrus Research and Education Center in Lake Alfred; David W. Hall is a retired botanist with the University of Florida departments of botany and natural sciences in Gainesville; Brent Sellers is a University of Florida associate professor at the Range Cattle Research and Education Center in Ona.*



**THE ORIGINAL Tropicana PURE PREMIUM**

Tropicana Sr. Procurement Manager  
Eddie Wertz  
Office: (941) 742-2646 or (863) 494-5658  
Mobile: (863) 990-1852

Buyer  
Sean McCoy  
Office: (941) 742-2406  
Mobile: (863) 632-1141  
Northern Area

Buyer  
Steve Riffle  
Office: (863) 453-4359  
Mobile: (863) 214-5222  
Southern Area

**VIGIRON**  
**Simple = COMPLEX**  
Simple natural affinity  
is the COMPLEX...  
**Iron Humate**  
**Carbon and Iron**  
That's it, except for... the simple  
natural recommendation:  
"Serve some to your soil today, and it  
will stand to serve your crop tomorrow."

Available bulk, F.O.B., Ruskin, FL  
813.645.6911 [www.Vigiron.com](http://www.Vigiron.com)  
3033 Cockroach Bay Rd., Ruskin, FL 33570