

Pigweed: *Amaranthus australis*



Pigweed is also known as Southern Amaranth or Southern Water-hemp. The plant usually grows from 3-9 ft. in height, though some have been known to grow up to 27 ft. tall with stems reaching up to 12 inches in diameter. Pigweed is an herbaceous annual, meaning the plant completes an entire life-cycle in under a year. It is found in many southern states of the USA, in Mexico, the West Indies, and South America, most frequently in wetland areas. Pigweed occurs in a variety of salinities all across the Louisiana coast, mostly as scattered individual plants. It produces an abundance of very small seeds that are feed for many different types of ducks, particularly the Common Teal. Pig weed is suitable for human consumption and also quite nutritious.

