

Pasture Sagebrush

Genus/species	<i>Artemisia frigida</i>
Family	Asteraceae
Distribution	Western US Northeastern Washington southward to N Arizona N Arizona eastward to N New Mexico and NW Texas NW Texas northeastward to NE North Dakota Alaska Naturalized in Lake States and New England

Comments This small “semi-shrub” is a perennial having a woody base, and it is also known as “fringed sagebrush” or “fringed sagewort”. It seldom grows to be more than a foot tall or wide, and is typically found in rather coarse soil in full sunlight, but is sometimes found along stream banks. It can be found from near sea level in Alaska up to 11,000 feet or more in the southern Rocky Mountains. Habitats range from dry short-grass prairies, open forests, and alpine areas. The small grayish-green leaves are pinnately-lobed, typically two or three times, resulting in many fine lobes on a leaf. The tiny flower heads occur along spikes that develop in the spring, blooming about August, and the seeds ripen in the fall. Pollination is by wind. This species is eaten by antelope, elk, deer and bighorn sheep as well as domestic livestock.

