

## Horsenettle

*Solanum carolinense* L.

### Life cycle

Spreading to erect, patch-forming perennial.

### Leaves

Alternate, egg-shaped, shallowly to deeply lobed, 2 to 5 inches long with sharp, prominent prickles on the leaf veins, midveins and petioles. Star-shaped hairs are present on both leaf surfaces.

### Stems

Spreading to erect, herbaceous stems with multiple branching, up to 3 feet in height. Stems have sharp, prominent prickles and star-shaped hairs.



Horsenettle plant.

## Horsenettle *continued*

### Flowers and fruit

Flowers are white to pale purple, star-shaped with five petals fused at the base and found in clusters on prickly flowering stalks. Flower centers consist of bright yellow, cone-shaped anthers. Berries are yellow at maturity, globe-shaped, wrinkled and approximately 0.5 inch across, and contain up to 170 seeds.

### Reproduction

Seeds and deeply penetrating vertical to horizontal creeping roots.

### Toxicity

All plant parts are toxic to animals.



Sharp, prominent prickles of horsenettle.



Horsenettle leaf.