

REDROOT PIGWEED

Amaranthus retroflexus

- FAMILY:** Amaranthaceae
- GENUS:** Amaranthus
- SPECIES:** retroflexus
- COMMON NAMES:** Redroot Pigweed, Pigweed, Rough Pigweed, Green Amaranth.
- POLLEN GRAINS:** Spheroidal, 25 to 30 microns in diameter. Germ pores numerous 2.5 microns in diameter. Exine is thin and somewhat granulated. Pollen of this genus very similar to pollen of Chenopodiaceae.
- POLLINATING PERIOD:** Late summer for peak period.
- DISTRIBUTION:** Throughout the United States.
- ALLERGIC IMPORTANCE:** Generally of minor importance. Considered a factor in areas of abundance.

Redroot Pigweed is a stout, rough-pubescent weed, commonly with ascending branches from the base. It is 1 to 10 feet tall with dense terminal flower cluster. Typically a garden and orchard weed, it prefers cultivated soil. The coarseness of the plant belies the small amount of pollen produced.

In warm southern areas there is a prolonged pollinating period (March-Nov.) but the peak is still late summer.



Amaranthus retroflexus
(Redroot Pigweed)