



Photo: Maek Hitch  
Plants and Animals of Northeast Colorado

**Scientific name:** *Argemone polyanthemus*

**Common name(s):** Crested/Annual Pricklypoppy

**Family:** Papaveraceae (Poppy)

**Native:** CO, NM, Great Plains

**Habitat:** Plains, foothills, dry grasslands, open slopes, roadsides

With a deep taproot, this long-blooming, showy annual is a focal point in any dry garden. Combine with Grama Grass (*Bouteloua spp.*), Sage (*Artemisia spp.*), Yucca (*Yucca spp.*), Dotted Blazing Star (*Liatris punctata*), Scarlet Gilia (*Ipomopsis aggregata*), Prairie Zinnia (*Zinnia grandiflora*), Colorado Four O'Clock (*Mirabilis multiflora*), Engelmann's Daisy (*Engelmannia pinnatifida*) and Prickly Pear Cactus (*Opuntia spp.*). Wear gloves when handling; all parts of this plant are poisonous if ingested.

**Plant type:** Annual/biennial/short-lived perennial (reseeds)

**Elevation:** to 8000'

**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4

**Exposure:** Full sun

**Soil:** Clay, loam, sandy, gravelly (prefers poor, well-drained soil)

**Moisture:** Moderate, low, dry, xeric

**Flower color:** White

**Bloom time:** Summer

**Mature size (height x width):** 18-40" x 10-20"



Photo: Jason W. Baker  
Red Butte Garden  
The University of Utah

**Propagation:** Sow in situ outside in mid to late fall. Cover lightly.

