

Pluchea indica

Indian fleabane, Indian pluchea

Pluchea indica (L.) Less.

Family: Asteraceae

Description: Branched shrub, 6 ft tall. Leaves 1.6 inches long by 0.8 inches wide, margin dentate. Flower heads hemispherical panicles, pink, lavender. Seeds very small, thin thistles⁽⁷⁰⁾. *Indica*, of India⁽⁶⁹⁾.

Distribution: Native to south Asia. Occurs in coastal areas in marshes and saline soils on all main islands except Hawai'i. First collected on O'ahu in 1915⁽⁷⁰⁾.

Environmental impact: Displaces forages in coastal pastures and natives in marshes and saline areas. Destroys habitat of water birds.

Management: Sensitive to 2,4-D and probably to all hormone-type dicot killers. HAVO staff reported control with 1% glyphosate product in foliar applications (Zimmer, HAVO). Fern Duvall (DOFAW) cleared areas



of fleabane in the Kanaha Pond Reserve with drizzle applications of 1 lb/acre of glyphosate (Rodeo®) to establish bird nesting sites.