

# Urena lobata

## Aramina

*Urena lobata* L.

Family: Malvaceae

**Description:** Erect, somewhat herbaceous shrub to 6 ft tall, branches often purplish and hairy. Leaves ovate to somewhat narrow, sometimes lobed, 4 inches wide. Flowers pink to purplish, maroon at base. Fruit a dry hemispherical bur, covered with hooks, that sticks to fur and clothing and splits into 5 capsules (mericarps). *Urena*, *uren*, Indian (Malabar) name for plants of this genus; *lobata*, lobed leaves<sup>(5, 70)</sup>.

**Distribution:** Origin obscure. Pantropical. First mentioned in 1888 in Honolulu. Now also on Kaua'i, in East Maui, and West Hawai'i<sup>(70)</sup>.

**Environmental impact:** Burs a nuisance in pastures and disturbed forests.

**Management:** Unknown. Some members of this family are tolerant of hormone-type herbicides. Probably would require integrated mechanical and chemical treatments.

