

Verbena litoralis

Seashore vervain, joee, oī

Verbena litoralis Kunth

Family: Verbenaceae

Description: Erect branched herb, to 6.5 ft tall, base somewhat woody. Leaves opposite, narrow, 4 inches long by 0.6 inches wide, margins serrate, each pair at a right angle to the next pair. Small flowers blue, purple, or lavender on slender terminal spikes 5 inches long. Used medicinally by Hawaiians. The Latin *Verbena* was applied to various sacred plants of religious ceremony and medicinal use; *litoralis* refers to the seashore, perhaps reflecting its original habitat^(5, 70).

Distribution: Native to tropical America. Occurs in pastures, forests, and other disturbed sites in moist to wet areas on all the main islands including Kaho‘olawe⁽⁷⁰⁾.

Environmental impact: Displaces forages in pastures and native species in disturbed forest sites.



Management: Sensitive to foliar application of 2,4-D. Goats will not browse on seashore vervain (An Peischel).