Botanical name: Drymaria cordata subsp. cordata

Common name: Tropical chickweed

Family: Caryophyllaceae

Origin: Thought to have originated in tropical America although it is widespread throught the tropical regions of the world

Habit: Herbaceous plant

Height: 20cm tall

Flowers: Blooming all year round the small flowers are loosely clustered towards the tips of the branches. The flowers have five narrow green sepals covered with sticky hairs. They have deeply lobed 5petals

Leaves: The sticky hairless leaves have entire margins and rounded or slightly pointy tips.

Fruit: Small egg shaped capsules containing a few reddish-brown seeds. Seeds are wind dispersed, water, vehicles in mud and contaminated agricultural produce

Stems: Weak upright or sprawling hairless stems which sometimes develops roots at its lower joints (at nodes).

Habitat: Pastures, crops, gardens, footpaths, roadsides, waste areas, disturbed sites, riparian vegetation, open woodlands and forest margins preferring moist/shady sites.

Toxicity: Non-toxic. Young leaves and shoots can be eaten.

Control Methods: Foliar spray, hand weed or cover area with black plastic to solarise the weeds effectively cooking the weeds.