



# Project BudBurst

A National Phenology Network Field Campaign for Citizen Scientists



www.budburst.org

**Common Name:** Field mustard, turnip

**Scientific Name:** *Brassica rapa* or  
*Brassica campestris*

**Plant Family:** Brassicaceae

## Identifying Characteristics:

**Size:** Annual herb, to perennial herb, to subshrub, depending on growing conditions.

**Leaves:** The lower leaves have 3 – 5 deep lobes along their margins. The basal and lower stem leaves are attached directly to the stem, and you will often see the base of the leaves surrounding the stem where they attach to it. The leaf margins are often so deeply lobed that they almost appear to be made up of individual leaflets.

**Flowers:** Flowers are borne in branched flowering stems; each flower has four green sepals within which are borne four petals that are bright yellow. Each flower develops into an elongated fruit that becomes 3 to 7 cm (1 to 2.75 in) long when ripe.

**Habitat:** Fields of cereals, orchards and disturbed fields and roadsides at elevations less than 1500 m (5000 ft).

**Bloom time:** January - May

Information source:  
The Jepson Manual. 1993. University of California Press

**Did you know?** This species is native to Europe, but it has become widespread in the United States.

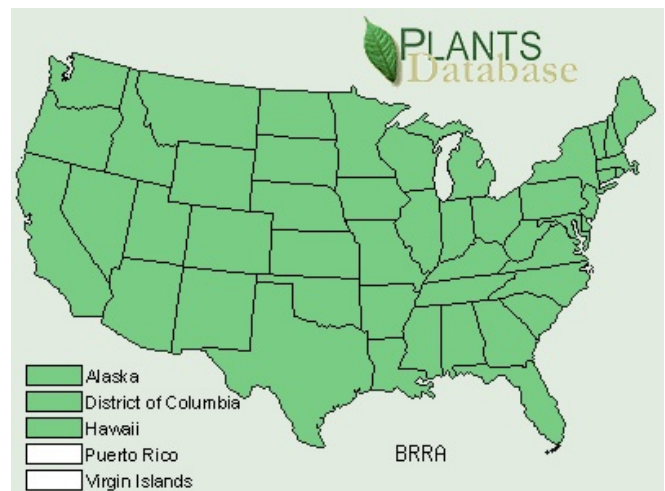


Photograph by Br. Alfred Brousseau, Saint Mary's College.

## Phenological observation:

First Flower

## Distribution Area:



Map courtesy of USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database (plants.usda.gov)