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*Stanleya pinnata*

[Synonyms : *Cleome pinnata*]

**PRINCE'S PLUME** is a perennial. Native to western North America it has small bright yellow flowers.

It is also known as Desert plume, Desert prince's plume, Golden prince's plume, *Kwiminne lupsine* (Zuni North American Indian), Paiute cabbage, Spider flower, Yellow root, and Yellow spider-flower.

Warning – the plant in concentration is poisonous for animals because it absorbs selenium from the soil.

*Pinnata* is a botanical reference to the leaf-shape meaning 'a feathery arrangement of leaflets on each side of the common stalk'.

In Spring local North American Indian tribes including the Hopi, Kawaiisu, Tewa and Havasupai collected the young leaves and boiled them for food (twice discarding the boiling water) and served them as a green vegetable. Apparently the Panamint and Paiute tribes also ate prince's plume cooked like cabbage (*Brassica oleracea* var. *capitata*).

The plant provided medicines for several North American Indian tribes. Records suggest however that apart from the Paiute Indians who took a root decoction as a tonic, it was generally applied externally only (most often in a poultice). The Zuni tribe used it to treat venereal disease and some skin disorders, Navajo Indians applied it to glandular swellings, it was a remedy for rheumatism, earache and toothache for the Shoshoni, and the Paiute used it in poultices for treating diphtheria symptoms and throat pain.