

THE OCCURRENCE OF ASTER SPINOSUS IN
CENTRAL OKLAHOMA

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Wootin and Stanley² give the range of *Aster spinosus* Benth. as Utah to California, Texas and New Mexico and southward with the type locality as far as Mexico. Munz¹ extends its range into Central America. The author recently found two large patches of the plant growing on low sandy ridges on the flood plain of the South Canadian river, associated with *Panicum virgatum*, *Phragmites communis*, *Populus deltoides*, *salix* spp., *Erigeron canadensis* and *Equisetum hyemale*.

This extends the known range of this plant, known as "Mexican Devil Weed" approximately 350 miles eastward.

The plants are growing at present on an older portion of the flood plain, beyond the Tamarix-Populus association which characterizes the second and third levels of the flood plain of the South Canadian river in this area. The plants appear to have been established in their present location for at least five years.

By studying a map showing the headwaters of the South Canadian river, it may be seen that the plant has probably been brought from its older range by flood waters. Further study probably will reveal its presence along the river toward its headwaters and perhaps further down stream.

LITERATURE

1. Munz, Philip A. A Manual of Southern California Botany. p. 581.
2. Wooten, E. O. and Standley, Paul. Flora of New Mexico. p. 667.

