

Perennial pepperweed look alikes

Perennial pepperweed (*Lepidium latifolium*) may get confused with other *Lepidium* species, especially hoary cress (*L. draba*). It can grow much taller than the other *Lepidium* species and has tiny fruits.



Perennial pepperweed has dense clusters of small white flowers (left) that develop into tiny, hairy, flat pods (right).



Perennial pepperweed leaves are gray-green and waxy (right).



| Name | Stem | Leaves | Flowers | Fruit/Seeds |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| Perennial pepperweed (<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>) | 1-5' tall ; multiple stems from base | Basal leaves up to 12" with serrated edges; stem leaves waxy, gray-green, 1-3" long with distinct petiole | Dense clusters of small (<1/4"), white flowers ; late spring | Tiny, oval, hairy flat pods, <0.1" |
| Hoary cress (<i>L. draba</i>) | 8-24" tall; unbranched except in flower clusters; multiple stems from base | Basal long stalked, spatula shaped; lower stem irregularly toothed or shallowly lobed, 1-4" long; up stem become more lance-oblong, less toothed; stalkless | Flattish clusters of 1/4" flowers with 4 paddle shaped white petals | Teardrop to upside-down heart-shaped flat pod, up to 1/6" long |
| Field pepperweed (<i>L. campestre</i>) | 8-24" tall | Rosette leaves finely toothed, rounded at tip/ Upper stem leaves 1-2" long, arrowhead shaped, stalkless , toothless or partially toothed | May-June; dense racemes to 6" long ; flowers ~1/4"; white to green petals | Oblong to ovate flat pod; <1/4" long |