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California Mugwort

Artemisia vulgaris var. heterophylla

Family: Compositae
Tribe: Anthemideae
Genus: Artemisia
Species: heterophylla or vulgaris var. heterophylla

Common Names: California Mugwort, Mugwort

Pollen Grains: Oblately spheroidal 17.5-28/5 microns in diameter, normally having three long furrows tapering to pointed ends with margins sharply defined and well-marked central pore. Exine thick with coarse granule texture. Spines; usually found in this family, are absent or represented by merest vestige. Pollen grains of this genus all essentially alike.

Pollinating Period: July to October

Distribution: California to British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Idaho and Western Nevada.

Allergic Importance: Important.

California Mugwort is a perennial herb growing from running root stalks. The stems are erect, woody at the base and three to six feet high. Leaves are lance-shaped to oblong. The upper leaves are entire with the lower leaves sparingly cleft, green above and white-wooly beneath. Flower heads are arranged on an erect terminal panicle composed of dense spikes. Panicle usually 6-20 inches long.