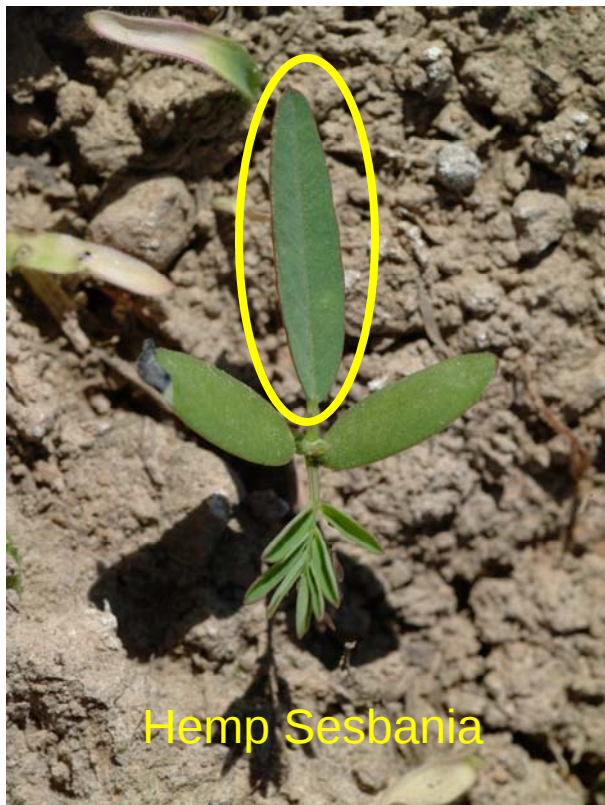


Field Notes
April 26, 2010
Johnny Saichuk



On the preceding page are four photographs of a grass seedling that should be easy to identify. I initially called it Fall Panicum because it has all the appearances of Fall Panicum I have come to associate with it. The problem arose when I took photographs with the close-up lens. It is plain to see the ligule in the first photograph and the glabrous (hairless) upper leaf surface in the upper right photograph. That falls apart when you look at the lower surface of one of the lower leaves (lower left photo) and the pubescent sheaths of the base of the plant and tillers. According to all references I have Fall Panicum is supposed to be glabrous or to occasionally have pubescence on the upper leaf surface of more mature leaves. Last year a similar seedling was brought to me. I planted it. When it matured it was Fall Panicum. I plan to visit the field this one came from to see if there is something else I can pick up to help identify it positively.



Last week I included the photograph of Jointvetch shown above right. Someone suggested I should have included one of Hemp Sesbania next to it rather than describe the differences. So here they are; Hemp Sesbania to the left with its simple first true leaf and Jointvetch to the right with its compound first true leaf. Both are two leaf seedlings though the Jointvetch is a little more advanced.