

YELLOW STAR THISTLE versus TOCALOTE

<p>yellow star thistle (<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>) aka YST</p>	<p>tocalote (<i>Centaurea melitensis</i>) aka Maltese star thistle, Napa star thistle</p>
	
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<p>Rosette leaves pointed at apex</p>	<p>Rosette leaves rounded at apex</p>
	
<p>© 2010 Steven Thorsted</p>	<p>©2013 Jean Pawek</p>
<p>Largest stem wings up to 5 mm wide</p>	<p>Largest stem wings up to 3 mm wide</p>
	
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<p>Leaves 1-2 × lobed or dissected; densely covered with fine, white, cottony hairs that hide most of the stiff hairs and resinous dots</p>	<p>Leaves entire to lobed, evenly covered with thick stiff hairs and minute glandular dots. Older leaves covered with fine, white cottony hairs that do not hide the stiff hairs and resinous dots.</p>

yellow star thistle

(*Centaurea solstitialis*)

aka YST



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tocalote

(*Centaurea melitensis*)

aka Maltese star thistle, Napa star thistle



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Disk flower corollas 13--20 mm.

Flowering Period: May--Oct

Disk flower corollas 10--12 mm.

Flowering Period: Apr--Jul



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Central spine of phyllaries 10–25 mm, palmately spiny, stout, straw-colored.

Central spine of phyllaries 5–10 mm, base spine-fringed, slender, ± purple tip.



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Fruits glabrous. Elevation: < 1300 m.

Fruits finely hairy. Elevation: < 2200 m.

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Information from *The Jepson Manual* and *Weeds of California and Other Western States*.

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