

Further observations of Tree Spinach *Chenopodium giganteum*.

Ian Wright

The article by Graham Martin in *Worcestershire Record* No. 45 November 2018 proved both interesting and informative. It enabled the identification of some plants that had come up during 2018 in the garden of a client of mine at Shelsley Kings in the Teme Valley (SO7305 6525).

These seedlings had emerged from cracks in a paved area and two of them were allowed to grow to see how they developed. They rapidly reached a height of about 1.5 m at which time my client decided they should be removed.

The garden where the Tree Spinach had grown is large but the seedlings were confined to a small area of mostly paving where food is provided for the birds. This appears to point to the origin of the seed being wild bird food. Whether the inclusion of Tree Spinach seed in bird food is accidental or intended it may well have led to seedlings appearing beneath bird feeders elsewhere during 2018. Further reports welcome.

Reference

Martin, G. 2018. *Chenopodium giganteum* Tree Spinach near Elmley Castle. *Worcestershire Record* 45:52-53.