

203. LACTUCA.

LACTUCA ELONGATA. *Muhl.**Tall Lettuce.*

Leaves smooth, the lower ones runcinate, clasping; the upper ones lanceolate, sessile; flowers paniced.

This plant, I am informed, sometimes appears in great abundance on grounds which are newly burnt over, and on this account it has received the name of *Fire weed* in some parts of the interior. The whole plant is lactescent. Stem erect, four or five feet high. Lower leaves long, spreading, runcinate, clasping the stem. Upper leaves sessile. The stem terminates in a large, spreading panicle of yellow flowers, which remain expanded but a short time.—July, August.

Variety β. linearis. When the top of the plant is destroyed by accident, young branches shoot up with entire linear leaves, appearing like a different species.

* LACTUCA INTEGRIFOLIA.

Arrow leaved Lettuce.

L. foliis sagittatis, integris, inermibus, amplexicaulibus; floribus paniculatis.

Leaves sagittate, entire, unarmed, clasping; flowers paniced.

Stem three or four feet high, round, smooth, striated, Leaves sessile, lanceolate, sagittate at base, entire, the lower ones a little eroded, pale underneath, the middle rib smooth. Panicle more compact than in *L. elongata*. Calyx cylindric-urceolate, the scales tipped with brown. Corolla yellow.

The uniformly entire leaves of this plant sufficiently distinguish it from *L. elongata*, from which it may nevertheless be possibly descended.—Road sides.—July.—Biennial.

* LACTUCA SANGUINEA.

Wood Lettuce.

L. foliis amplexicaulibus, runcinatis, subtus glaucis, carina filamentosa; floribus paniculatis.

Leaves clasping, runcinate, glaucous underneath, with the midrib filamentous; flowers paniced.

Stem erect, smooth, two or three feet high, mostly of a dark reddish purple colour. Leaves all clasping, runcinate, the lobes