

## CHENILLE ACALYPHA

Chenille, *Acalypha hispida*, are dioecious, which means plants have either male or female flowers, but not both. Female flowers are smaller than male flowers, and will quickly develop seeds, if the flowers are pollinated. Since male plants produce larger flowers, and flower on a continuous basis, select only male plants for stock production. Allow the stock plants to flower, and cull out all female plants. If cuttings are purchased, request cuttings from only male plants.



Pic #1: The smaller Chenille on the left is female, and the larger chenille on the right is male.

Chenille is very sensitive to iron deficiency when the soil pH is  $> 6.2$  and media is kept too wet. Maintain the soil pH 5.6-6.0, soil EC 1.5-2.0 mS/cm, tested via SME, and ensure the media is allowed to dry down between irrigations.