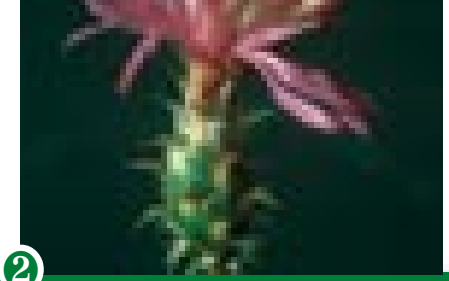
Squarrose knapweed

Centaurea virgata

1. USDA ARS
2. Cindy Roche
3. Steve Dewey, UT State Univ.
4. Eric Coombs, ODA
5. ODA

Squarrose knapweed

Centaurea virgata



2

CA
NV
OR

Description

Perennial; grows 1½ to 3 feet tall. Multi-branched, erect, with many small, pink to rose flowers. Flowers fall readily from plant stems after flowering. Flowers more slender than most knapweeds, with recurved bract tips. Asteraceae family.

Impacts

Squarrose knapweed is a rangeland and pasture invader, rendering these areas unsuitable for productive grazing. Dispersal is unique among knapweeds because this plant breaks off at the base and tumbles across the landscape, dispersing seeds along the way. Individual seed heads are deciduous, dislodging from the main plant and aiding dispersal by attaching to fur and clothing.

L. minutus

4

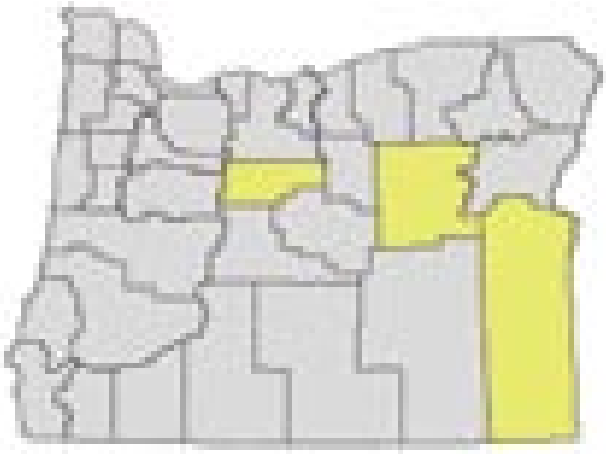
5

Biological controls

Many agents including two weevils (e.g. *Larinus minutus*), and two flies (e.g. *Urophora affinis*) are available where this plant is established.

Distribution in Oregon

PLEASE CALL 1-866-INVADER IF YOU FIND THIS SPECIES IN OREGON.



Limited *Abundant* *Not known to be present*

2007

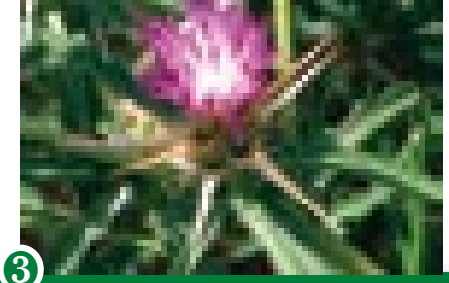
Iberian and purple starthistle

(Centaurea iberica & calcitrapa)

1. Tom Forney, ODA
2. Tom Forney, ODA
3. Tom Forney, ODA
4. Photographer not known
5. CA Dept of Food & Ag
6. ODA

Iberian and purple starthistle

(Centaurea iberica & calcitrapa)*



OR
CA
NV
WA

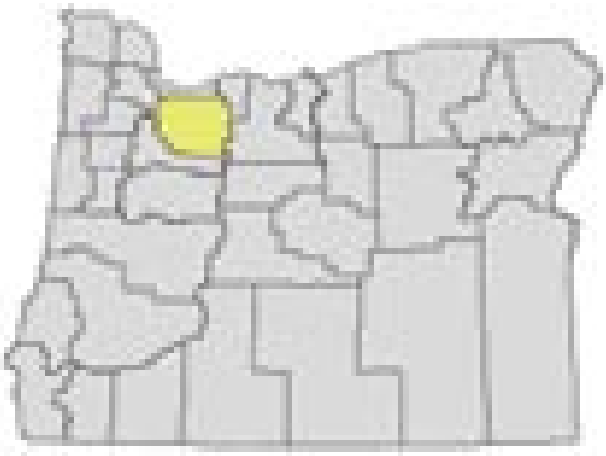
Description

Annual or biennial; rosette forms in May and June, blooms midsummer through fall. Grows 1 to 6 feet tall. Plant covered in fine hairs. Leaves divided into narrow linear segments. Rosettes have spines in center. Flower heads purple with straw-colored spine-like bracts over 1 inch in length. Iberian starthistle seeds are plumed, and purple starthistle seeds are not, the distinguishing characteristic between the two plants. Asteraceae family.

Impacts

Both species have the ability to adapt to a variety of climatic conditions. They are extremely competitive along roadsides and in low-rainfall range situations, as well as in higher rainfall pastures where they displace valuable forage species. The sharp spines deter grazing animals and wildlife, reduce the value of hay and can impede recreational use. This weedy plant has the potential to become widely established, which would significantly impact agricultural and wildland resources.

Distribution in Oregon



PLEASE CALL 1-866-INVADER IF YOU FIND THIS SPECIES IN OREGON.

** Not listed in WA.*

Limited *Abundant* *Not known to be present*

2007

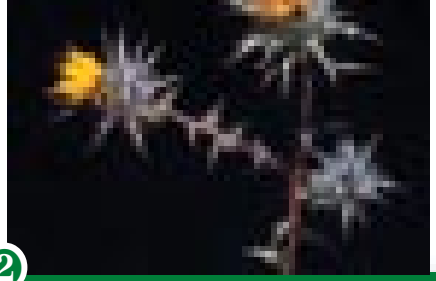
Woolly and smooth distaff thistle

Carthamus lanatus & baeticus

1. Ken French, ODA
2. Ken French, ODA
3. Steve Hurst @ USDA-NRCS PLANTS
4. Ken French, ODA
5. Ken French, ODA
6. ODA

Woolly and smooth distaff thistle

Carthamus lanatus & baeticus



CA
OR

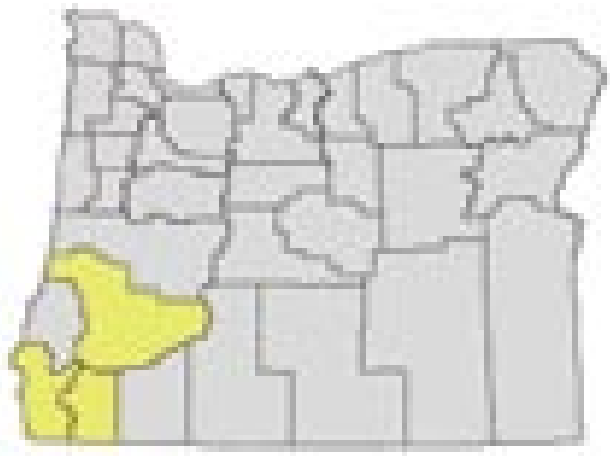
Description

Winter annual; erect plant that grows to 4 feet tall. Stems rigid, ribbed, white or pale green, usually with minute hairs but some plants woolly. Leaves rigid, deeply divided, with lobes ending in short spines, prominently veined, with bases that clasp the stem. Yellow flower petals with thin, red veins distinguish distaff from other thistles. Asteraceae family.

Impacts

Carthamus spp. are believed to be the most serious threat to range and pasture lands in Oregon. Dense stands can crowd out other vegetation, livestock, and recreational access. Dead plants remain standing, thorned and rigid, for at least one year after dying back and can injure the mouths and eyes of animals trying to graze around them. This plant is not palatable to domestic animals or wildlife. Once established, it is difficult to eliminate because of a persistant seedbank.

Distribution in Oregon



PLEASE CALL 1-866-INVADER IF YOU FIND THIS SPECIES IN OREGON.

Limited *Abundant* *Not known to be present*

2007

Plumeless thistle

Carduus acanthoides

1. Dan Sharratt, ODA
2. Dan Sharratt, ODA
3. Dan Sharratt, ODA
4. OH State Univ.
5. Eric Coombs, ODA
6. ODA

Plumeless thistle

Carduus acanthoides

CA
OR
WA

Description

Winter annual or biennial; grows erect from 4 to 7 feet tall. Branches repeatedly from middle of plant upward. Basal leaves form a rosette over a stout fleshy taproot. Alternate stem leaves deeply and irregularly lobed, and bear scattered hairs. Flowers rose-purple but occasionally white or cream colored. Asteraceae family.

Impacts

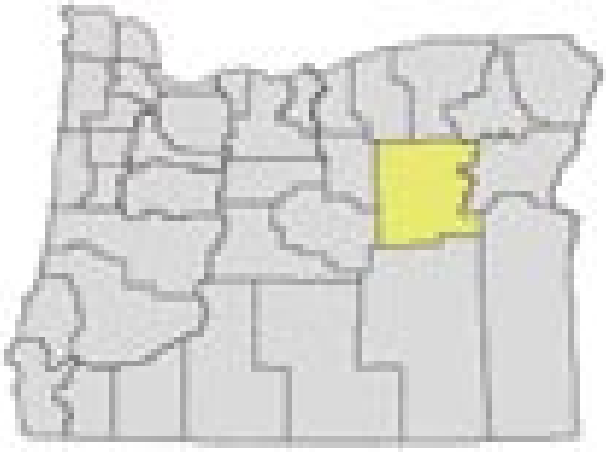
Plumeless thistle is a troublesome weed of pastures, meadows, roadsides and waste areas. It competes with desirable plants, reducing forage production. The spiny leaves and stems hinder livestock from grazing and obstruct recreational activities. Infestations diminish land value and are costly to control.

T. horridus

Biological controls

Two weevils, *Trichosirocalus horridus* and *Rhinocyllus conicus*, are approved for release on plumeless thistle where the plant is established. *R. conicus* is only approved for movement within states (i.e., may not be moved across state lines).

Distribution in Oregon



PLEASE CALL 1-866-INVADER IF YOU FIND THIS SPECIES IN OREGON.

Limited *Abundant* *Not known to be present*

2007

Orange hawkweed

Hieracium aurantiacum

1. Beth Myers-Shenai, ODA
2. Richard Old, xidservices.com
3. Beth Myers-Shenai, ODA
4. Beth Myers-Shenai, ODA
5. ODA

Orange hawkweed

Hieracium aurantiacum

4

ID
OR
WA

Description

Perennial; flowers May to June. Grows up to 12 inches. Leaves hairy, spatula shaped and almost exclusively basal. Flower heads red to orange, ½ inch wide, cluster at top of stem, and number up to 30 per plant. Reproduces extensively by stolons which form dense mats of vegetation. Asteraceae family.

Impacts

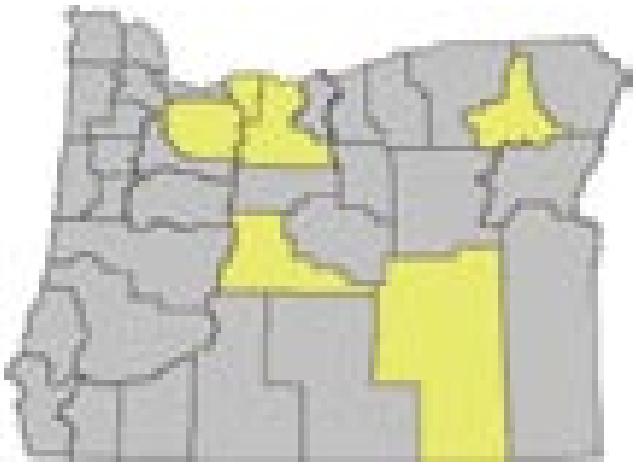
Plants of the invasive hawkweed complex produce mats of rosettes and dominate sites by out-competing other species and by releasing alleopathic compounds from their decaying leaves. They grow well in moist sunny grassy areas, but do tolerate shade in some areas. Wilderness meadows in the Pacific Northwest are at risk of invasion.

Biological controls

Four insects—two flies, a gall midge and a gall wasp—are currently being tested for control of hawkweeds in states where they have become well-established. 8

Distribution in Oregon

PLEASE CALL 1-866-INVADER IF YOU FIND THIS SPECIES IN OREGON.



Limited *Abundant* *Not known to be present*

2007

Yellow-flowered hawkweeds

Hieracium spp.

1. Dan Sharratt, ODA
2. Tim Butler, ODA
3. Beth Myers-Shenai, ODA
4. ODA

Yellow-flowered hawkweeds

Hieracium spp.

2

ID
OR
WA

Description

Perennial; flowers June to July in lower elevations. Grows 10 to 36 inches tall. Leaves hairy, spatula shaped, and almost all basal. Flower heads clustered, yellow, ½ inch wide; up to 30 per plant. Extensive stolons form dense mats of vegetation. Invasive yellow-flowered hawkweeds species are very similar to one another and difficult to classify. Native hawkweeds have numerous stem leaves, lack stolons and generally have solitary flowers. Asteraceae family.

Impacts

Plants of the invasive hawkweed complex produce mats of rosettes and dominate sites by out-competing other species and by releasing alleopathic compounds from their decaying leaves. They grow well in moist, sunny, grassy areas, but do tolerate shade in some areas. Wilderness meadows in the Pacific Northwest are at risk of invasion.

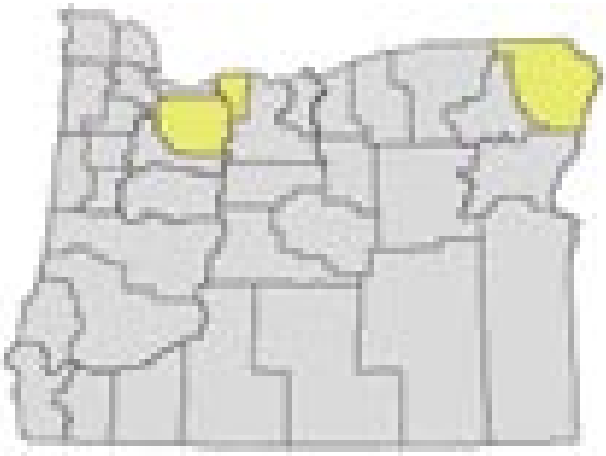
Biological controls

Four insects—two flies, a gall midge, and a gall wasp— are currently being tested for control of hawkweeds in states where the plants have become well-established.

4

Distribution in Oregon

PLEASE CALL 1-866-INVADER IF YOU FIND THIS SPECIES IN OREGON.



Limited *Abundant* *Not known to be present*

2007

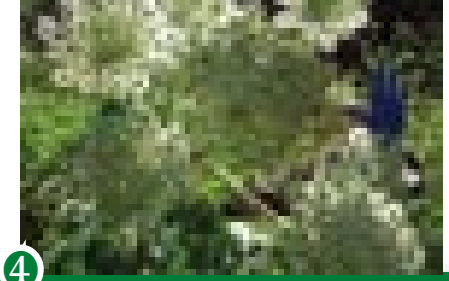
Giant hogweed

Heracleum mantegazzianum

1. Beth Myers-Shenai, ODA
2. Beth Myers-Shenai, ODA
3. Glenn Miller, ODA
4. USDA APHIS
5. ODA

Giant hogweed

Heracleum mantegazzianum



4

OR
WA
US

Description

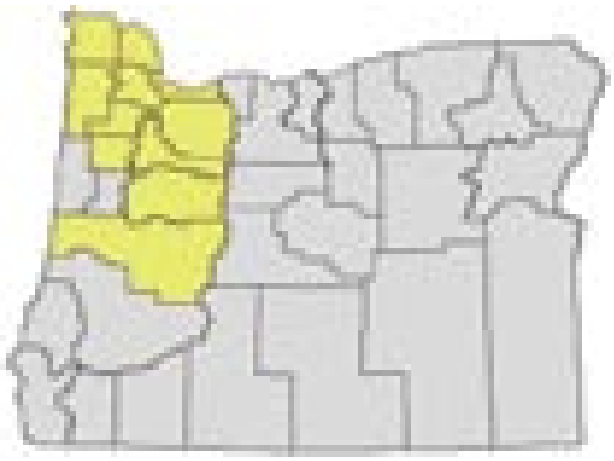
Perennial; flowers June to July. Grows 10 to 15 feet tall. Bolts after 2 to 4 years, then dies back. Stalks 2 to 4 inches in diameter, hollow, and have raised purple blotches with a single erect hair in the center. Flower head large, umbrella-like, up to 2½ feet in diameter. Leaves 3 to 5 feet wide, compound, and deeply incised. Closely resembles native cow parsnip, which rarely exceeds 6 feet tall with a flower head 8 to 12 inches wide. Apiaceae family.

Impacts

This plant is a public health hazard. Do not expose human skin to the plant or breathe the smoke from fires. The plant exudes a clear watery sap which sensitizes the skin to sunlight. Humans often develop severe burns to the affected areas, resulting in blistering and painful swelling that can develop into blackened scars. Giant hogweed is also very invasive in nature. It readily colonizes streambanks, fields, and forest understories. It has naturalized in many of the places where it was introduced, and is one of the most invasive weeds in Europe.

5

Distribution in Oregon



PLEASE CALL 1-866-INVADER IF YOU FIND THIS SPECIES IN OREGON.

Limited *Abundant* *Not known to be present*

2007

Paterson's curse

Echium plantagineum

1. Tom Forney, ODA
2. Steve Hurst @ NRCS PLANTS
3. Beth Myers-Shenai, ODA
4. Beth Myers-Shenai, ODA
5. Tom Forney, ODA
6. Tim Butler, ODA
7. ODA

Paterson's curse

Echium plantagineum

OR

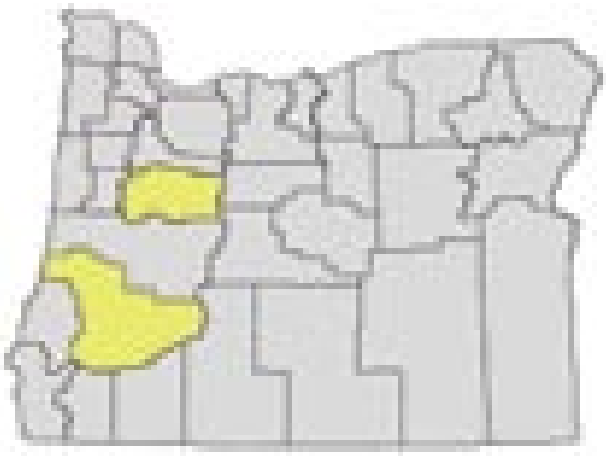
Description

Annual or short-lived perennial; flowers spring to fall. Grows 1 to 3 feet tall. Basal and rosette leaves broad, hairy with distinct veins and wavy margins. Leaves on flowering stems smaller and more linear. Plants often multi-branched, an abundance of stout hairs arising from the base. Flower head is curled, unrolls as flowers open. Flowers 5-petaled, blue-purple, may be pink or white and 2 of 5 stamen protrude from flower. Seeds gray to black nutlets. Boraginaceae family.

Impacts

Paterson's curse is an aggressive, drought-tolerant plant that is able to reproduce and establish under a wide range of conditions. It can be found invading dryland cereal production and pastures and is a potential significant invader of oak woodlands. This plant takes advantage of limited moisture and summer rains and is able to grow rapidly and produce seeds within a few weeks of germination. It contains pyrrolizidine alkaloids that can cause chronic liver damage to livestock that feed on it for prolonged periods of time.

Distribution in Oregon



PLEASE CALL 1-866-INVADER IF YOU FIND THIS SPECIES IN OREGON.

Limited *Abundant* *Not known to be present*

2007

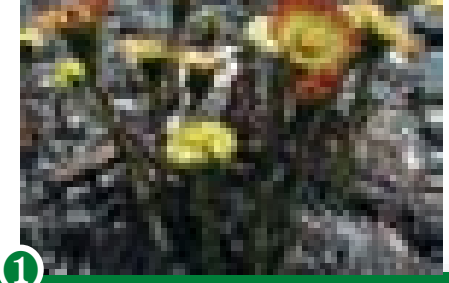
Coltsfoot

Tussilago farfara

1. Leslie J. Mehrhoff, Univ. of CN
2. Steve Hurst @ NRCS PLANTS
3. C. Evans, River to River CWMA
4. OH State Univ.
5. C. Evans, River to River CWMA
6. USDA-NRCS PLANTS

Coltsfoot

Tussilago farfara



OR

Description

Perennial; flowers in April or early spring. Grows 4 to 8 inches tall. Bright yellow flowers similar to dandelions appear before leaves emerge. White, fluffy seed heads. Large deep green leaves develop later, often forming a soil-covering canopy. Top leaf surface smooth, underside is covered with white hairs. Leaf stems and larger leaf veins distinctly purple in color. Spreads by underground rhizomes. Asteraceae family.

Impacts

The most common location for coltsfoot is on roadsides. From there, it can spread by seed or rhizomes to adjacent fields. While this weed does not spread rapidly, it is of concern because there are very few herbicides that will control it adequately, and it thrives in several crops. The plant can be very competitive in nursery and vegetable crops, and tillage increases plant density. Oregon populations have been found at a few locations and have been associated with nursery production. [6]

Distribution in the US

PLEASE CALL 1-866-INVADER IF YOU FIND THIS SPECIES IN OREGON.

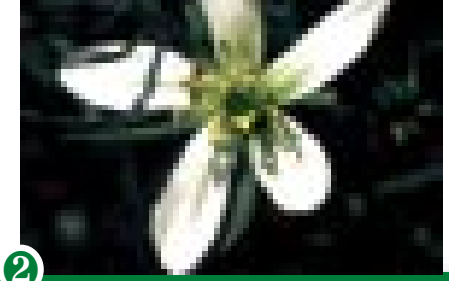
African rue

Peganum harmala

1. G.A. Cooper, Smithsonian Inst.
2. G.A. Cooper, Smithsonian Inst.
3. USDA ARS
4. Douglas Barbe, CA Dept. of Food & Ag.
5. ODA

African rue

Peganum harmala



2

CA
NV
OR

Description

Perennial, much-branched herb. Leaves alternate, smooth, and divided into long, narrow segments. When crushed, stems have a bitter, acrid taste and a disagreeable odor. Flowers white with 5 petals. Fruit a many-seeded capsule. Zygophyllaceae family.

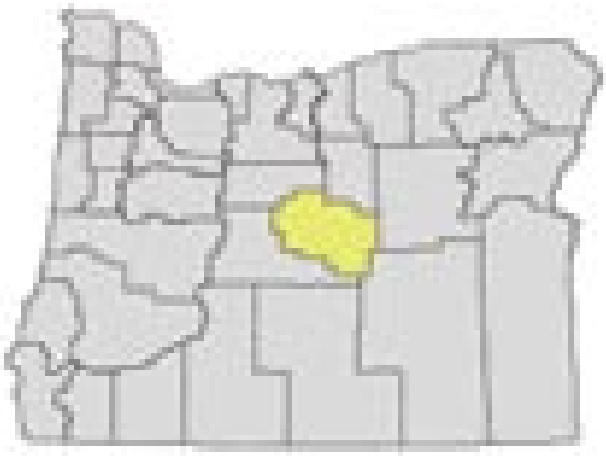
Impacts

African rue contains at least four poisonous alkaloids that are toxic to cattle, sheep, and probably horses. The seeds and fruit of the plant are the most toxic parts, young leaves are somewhat toxic, and mature leaves are less toxic. Dry leaves are apparently nontoxic.

Distribution in Oregon

PLEASE CALL 1-866-INVADER IF YOU FIND THIS SPECIES IN OREGON.

5



Limited *Abundant* *Not known to be present*

2007

Texas blueweed

Helianthus ciliaris

1. CA Dept of Food & Ag
2. CA Dept of Food & Ag
3. Steve Hurst @ NRCS PLANTS
4. USDA-NRCS PLANTS

Texas blueweed

Helianthus ciliaris

CA
OR
WA

Description

Perennial; blooms mid summer. Grows 1 to 2 feet tall. Stems arise from woody, creeping roots. Leaves mostly opposite, narrow to broadly lance-shaped, margins wavy, often with hairs. Flowerheads comprised of yellow outer (ray) flowers, and reddish to dark purple inner (disk) flowers. Asteraceae family.

Impacts

Texas blueweed is native to the southwestern US and can be found in both cropland and disturbed areas. It is unpalatable to livestock and severely reduces crop yield in some regions. Because of its competitive nature and persistent growth, it poses the threat of becoming the dominant plant in cultivated fields it has invaded.

Distribution in the US

PLEASE CALL 1-866-INVADER IF YOU FIND THIS SPECIES IN OREGON.

Skeletonleaf bursage

Ambrosia tomentosa

1. USDA-NRCS PLANTS
2. Irene Lindsey
3. Steve Hurst @ NRCS PLANTS
4. Irene Lindsey
5. USDA-NRCS PLANTS

Skeletonleaf bursage

Ambrosia tomentosa

1

ID
OR

Description

Perennial; flowers June to August. Grows 4 to 18 inches tall with extensive creeping rootstocks. Leaves lanceolate, coarsely toothed and deeply lobed. Flowers inconspicuous and yellow. Fruit a light brown bur with spines. Asteraceae family.

Impacts

Skeletonleaf bursage grows in cultivated fields, pastures, and waste areas in several western states and survives under varied soil moisture conditions.

Distribution in the US

PLEASE CALL 1-866-INVADER IF YOU FIND THIS SPECIES IN OREGON.

5

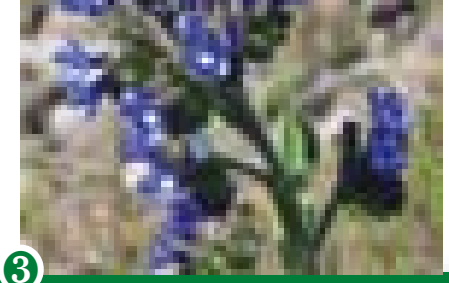
Common bugloss

Anchusa officinalis

1. Beth Myers-Shenai, ODA
2. Beth Myers-Shenai, ODA
3. Beth Myers-Shenai, ODA
4. Steve Hurst@NRCS PLANTS
5. Beth Myers-Shenai, ODA
6. ODA

Common bugloss

Anchusa officinalis



OR
WA

Description

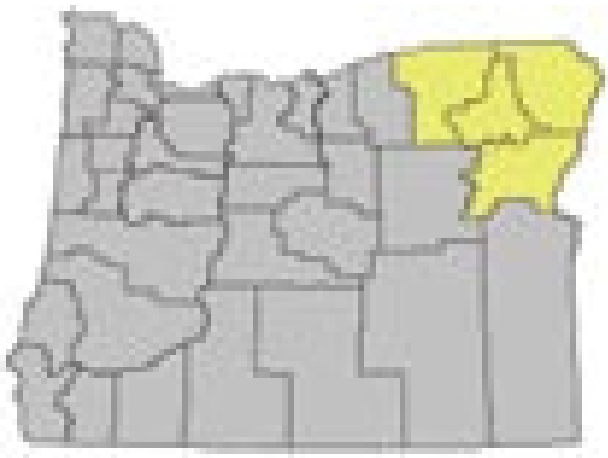
Perennial herb; flowers May to October. Grows 1 to 2 feet tall. Stems and leaves fleshy; overall plant coarsely hairy. Basal leaves narrowly oblong; mid leaves progressively smaller up stem, and upper leaves sessile (no petiole) or clasping. Blue to purple flowers with white throats. Petals 5 equal lobes, forming an uncurved tube. Flowers found in coiled clusters at end of stems. As the flowers open, coils unfold. Fruit a 4-chambered nutlet; each nutlet contains 1 seed. Boraginaceae family.

Impacts

Common bugloss invades alfalfa fields, pastures, pine forests, rangeland, riparian, and waste areas. The fleshy stalks can cause hay bales to mold. The plant can form large, dense stands, competing strongly with native plant communities.

Distribution in Oregon

PLEASE CALL 1-866-INVADER IF YOU FIND THIS SPECIES IN OREGON.



Limited *Abundant* *Not known to be present*

2007

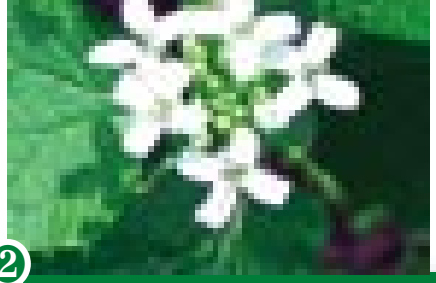
Garlic mustard

Alliaria petiolata

1. Glenn Miller, ODA
2. Glenn Miller, ODA
3. Steve Hurst @ NRCS PLANTS
4. Glenn Miller, ODA
5. Tom Forney, ODA
6. Hariet Hinz & Ester Gerber, CABI
7. ODA

Garlic mustard

Alliaria petiolata



2

OR
WA

Description

Biennial; rosettes form by midsummer first year, blooms April to June second year. 1 to 3 feet tall. Basal leaves dark green, kidney shaped, and 2 to 4 inches in diameter. Stem leaves alternate, sharply toothed, triangular, get smaller toward top of stem, and produce a distinct garlic odor when crushed. Flower stalks usually single and unbranched. Flowers ¼ inch wide with 4 white petals. Brassicaceae family.

Impacts

Garlic mustard displaces native forest understory species, reducing diversity and decreasing forage availability. Invaded habitats include forests, roadsides, streamsides, trails, and agricultural land; it thrives in the partial shade of oak savanna. Displacement occurs rapidly. This plant is very difficult to control once established.

C. scrobicollis

6

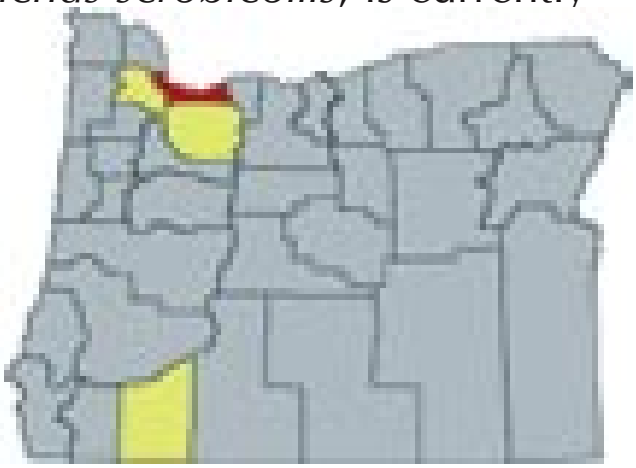
7

Biological controls

One biological control agent, *Ceutorhynchus scrobicollis*, is currently in the last phases of research; release is tentatively planned for 2008.

Distribution in Oregon

PLEASE CALL 1-866-INVADER IF YOU FIND THIS SPECIES IN OREGON.



Limited *Abundant* *Not known to be present*

2007

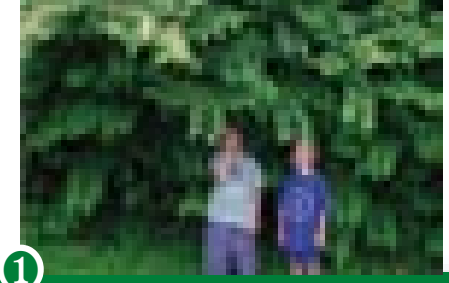
Japanese knotweed

Polygonum cuspidatum

1. Richard Old, xidservices.com
2. Chris Evans, River to River CWMA
3. Richard Old, xidservices.com
4. Glenn Miller, ODA
5. ODA

Japanese knotweed

Polygonum cuspidatum



CA
OR
WA

Description

Perennial; blooms July to October. Grows 4 to 9 feet tall from long, creeping rhizomes. Stout stems reddish-brown, nodes slightly swollen. Leaves short-stalked, truncate, broadly ovate and 2 to 6 inches long by 2 to 4 inches wide. Flowers greenish-white to cream in large plume-like clusters at ends of stems. Hybrids with giant knotweed common. Polygonaceae family.

Impacts

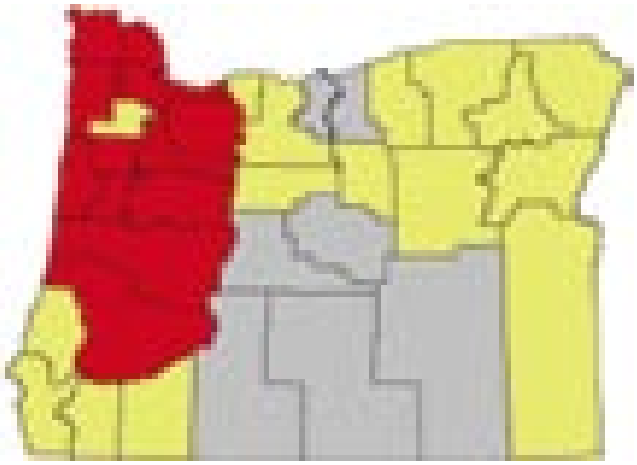
Japanese knotweed displaces native plant species, reducing biodiversity and decreasing forage availability. Invaded habitats include forests, roadsides, streamsides, trails, and agricultural land; it thrives in partial shade. Displacement occurs rapidly. This plant is very difficult to control once established. Giant and Himalayan knotweeds exhibit similar impacts.

Biological controls

Multiple natural enemies have been identified in the plant's native range and host-specificity testing in quarantine is currently underway in Oregon.

Distribution in Oregon

PLEASE CALL 1-866-INVADER IF YOU FIND THIS SPECIES IN OREGON.



Limited *Abundant* *Not known to be present*

2007

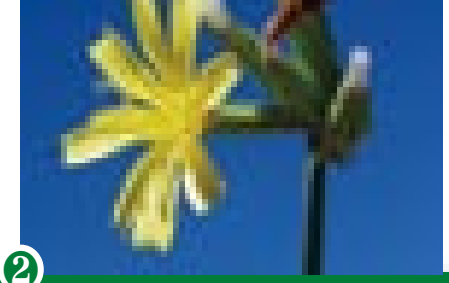
Rush skeletonweed

Chondrilla juncea

1. Gary Piper, WA State Univ.
2. Richard Old, xidservices.com
3. Steve Hurst @ NRCS PLANTS
4. UT State Univ.
5. Steve Dewey, UT State Univ.
6. G. Markin, USFS
7. ODA

Rush skeletonweed

Chondrilla juncea



2

CA
ID
NV
OR WA

Description

Perennial; blooms July to September. Grows 1 to 4 feet tall. Yellow flower ¾ inch in diameter with 7 to 15 petals. Coarse downbent hairs on lower 4 to 6 inches of stem; almost no leaves. Spreads primarily by seed, but roots scattered by cultivation can aid in spread. Asteraceae family.

Impacts

Rush skeletonweed is an aggressive plant in both rangeland and cropland, particularly in light textured soil. Impacts include reduced crop yield due to competition and harvest difficulties from sticky, latex sap that the plant exudes. Extensive efforts have been made to eradicate or contain outbreaks, but new sites are being found each year in Eastern Oregon.

B. gilveolella

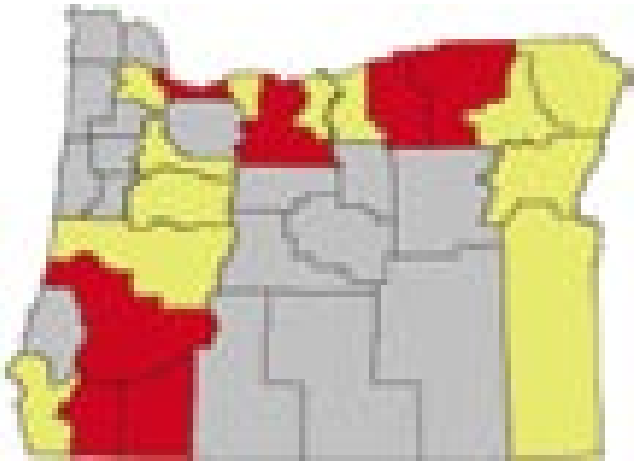
6

7

Biological controls

A moth (*Bradyrrhoa gilveolella*), a gall midge (*Cystiphora schmidti)*, a gall mite (*Eriophyes chondrillae*) and a rust fungus (*Puccinia chondrillina*) are all approved for release on rush skeletonweed.

Distribution in Oregon



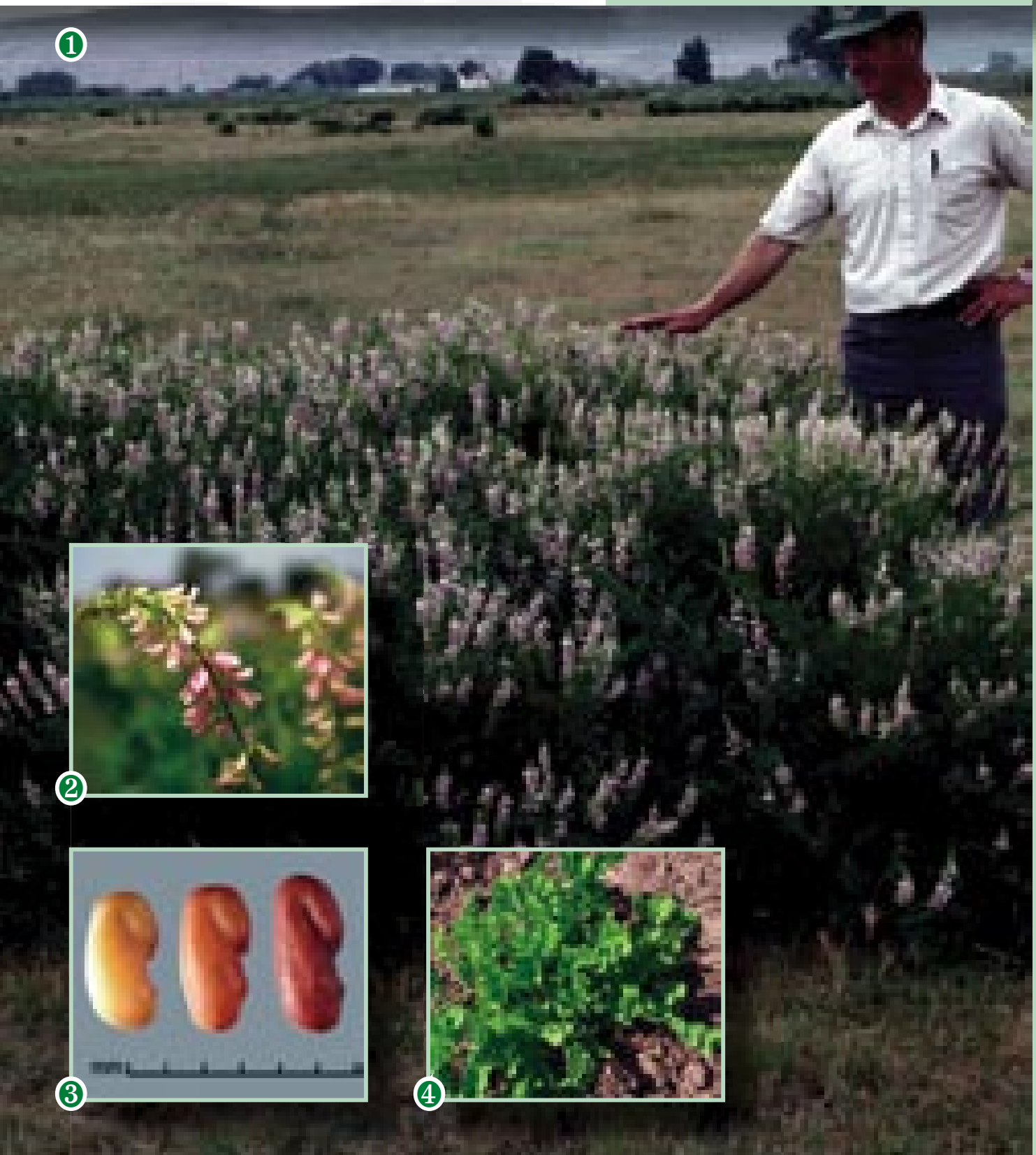
Limited *Abundant* *Not known to be present*

2007

Goatsrue

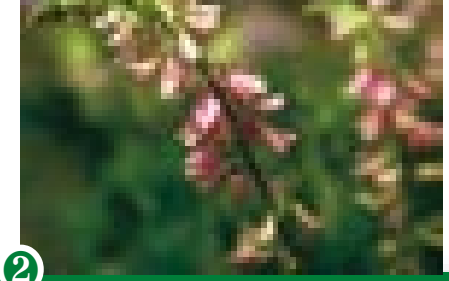
Galega officinalis

1. USDA APHIS PPQ
2. Steve Dewey, UT State Univ.
3. USDA APHIS PPQ
4. Bob Barrett, ODA
5. USDA-NRCS PLANTS



Goatsrue

Galega officinalis



NV
WA
US

Description

Perennial herb; blooms early June to October. Grows 4 to 6 feet tall. Stems upright, multiple, and tubular. Leaves alternate with 7 to 11 leaflets. Flowers bluish to purple, pea-like, and cluster at end of stem. Blossoms produce a single seed pod with 1 to 9 bean-shaped seeds. Develops a deep taproot. Each plant produces up to 15,000 pods. Flowers and fruits essential for identification; may be confused with crown vetch. Fabaceae family.

Impacts

Goatsrue stems and leaves contain poisonous alkaloids that are fatal to humans, sheep, and cattle if ingested. It also displaces native and beneficial plants and forms a monoculture in wetlands, limiting wildlife food and nesting sources. This plant infests areas with high soil moisture: along waterways, ditch banks, roadsides, irrigated cropland, pastures, and marshy areas. Animals will avoid goatsrue, which allows it to establish and spread in rangeland. It is difficult and expensive to control and seed may remain viable in soil for up to 10 years.

Distribution in the US

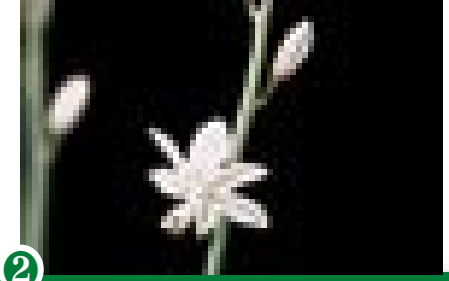
Onionweed

Asphodelus fistulosus

1. USDA APHIS PPQ
2. USDA APHIS PPQ
3. USDA APHIS PPQ
4. USDA APHIS PPQ
5. USDA-NRCS PLANTS

Onionweed

Asphodelus fistulosus



US

Description

Perennial; erect flower stalks and leaves grow directly from stem. Leaves linear, clustered in a circular arrangement and similar to onion. White flowers with 6 drooping stamen, starting with a long thin tube that widens into a flat-faced flower with 6 separated petals, each with a central brownish mid-vein. Honey fragrance on young flowers. Buds bullet shaped. Dry round fruit splits open when seeds ripe. Rooting system a mass of thin, spreading, thread-like roots without a taproot. Liliaceae family.

Impacts

Onionweed grows so thickly that other vegetation, particularly grass, is reduced. It reduces land value due to its impact on crop yield and costs associated with control. The presence of this weed is often a sign of overgrazed ground, since the plant is not usually eaten by animals; it is also an indication of nutrient-poor soil, as onionweed is one of the few plants that prefers it. The plant may cause dermatitis in some people.

Distribution in the US

Pom pom weed

Campuloclinium macrocephalum

1. WESSA
2. USDA ARS

Pom pom weed

Campuloclinium macrocephalum

1

NOT LISTED

Description

Perennial herb; stems and leaves covered with rough, bristly hairs. Leaves scattered along length of stem but clustered at base to form a rosette. Rootstock short, woody, and ends in thick tuber-like perennial roots. Flowerheads showy, pink and produced in dense clusters consisting of hundreds of tiny, star shaped florets surrounded by purple bracts. Asteraceae family.

Impacts

Pom pom weed has the ability to produce new stems from rootstock. Efficient seed dispersal combined with enormous reproductive potential enables it to rapidly encroach large areas. It infests natural grasslands, open savanna, and wetlands. This plant displaces native species and reduces biological diversity. Tuber-like food storage organs enable the plant to recover rapidly after winter or damage.

Distribution in the US

NOT KNOWN TO BE ESTABLISHED IN THE US OUTSIDE OF CULTIVATION.

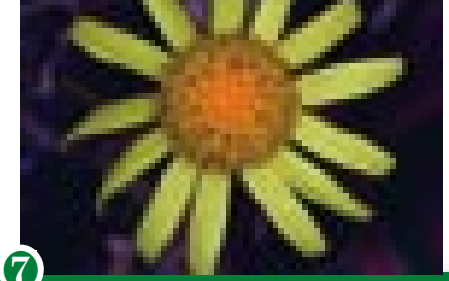
Narrow-leaved ragwort

Senecio inaequidens

1. Pedro Tenorio Lezama 2001
2. Pedro Tenorio Lezama 2001
3. Pedro Tenorio Lezama 2001
4. Pedro Tenorio Lezama 2001

Narrow-leaved ragwort

Senecio inaequidens



7

NOT LISTED

Description

Perennial forb; erect stem often numerously branched from woody base. Leaves alternate, bright green, slightly thick and linear. Species displays a fair amount of variability in leaf shape and width. Flower-heads lemon-yellow colored. Asteraceae family.

Impacts

Narrow-leaved ragwort is toxic to humans and livestock. It is a prolific seed producer and adapts to a wide range of environments. This plant colonizes open and disturbed areas and may also be found in natural environments such as dunes and temporary ponds.

Distribution in the US

NOT KNOWN TO BE ESTABLISHED IN THE US OUTSIDE OF CULTIVATION.

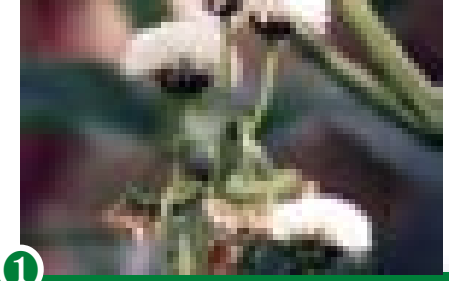
Senegal tea plant

Gymnocoronis spilanthoides

1. Walter Stahel, New Zealand

Senegal tea plant

Gymnocoronis spilanthoides



1

NOT LISTED

Description

Perennial herb; forms round bushes, extending from banks with mats of tangled stems. Stems light green, erect at first then prostrate, scrambling and branching at the nodes. Internodes hollow, inflated and buoyant. Leaves dark green and opposite. Florets white and numerous. Seed yellow-brown. Roots finely fibrous. Asteraceae family.

Impacts

Senegal tea plant is sold in aquarium trade. It is fast growing and can rapidly cover water bodies with a floating mat, excluding other plants and animals. Infestations block drainage channels. Recreation, irrigation, and navigation activities may be severely affected. Water quality may decline if a large quantity of plants die off and decompose under water.

Distribution in the US

NOT KNOWN TO BE ESTABLISHED IN THE US OUTSIDE OF CULTIVATION.

Stemless thistle

Onopordum acaulon

1. Western Australia Dept. of Ag & Food
2. J.L. Benito

Stemless thistle

Onopordum acaulon

NOT LISTED

Description

Annual or biennial; leaves develop as large rosette that may spread to cover an area up to 2 feet wide. Whitish-green leaves densely covered in woolly hairs and deeply divided with numerous spiny waxy lobes. Flowerhead consists of white or purple florets and surrounded by sharp spines. Several stalkless flower heads form as a cluster at center of rosette, close to ground. Asteraceae family.

Impacts

Dense infestations of stemless thistle reduce the carrying capacity of pastures. It is unpalatable except when wilted. This plant spreads over large areas, shading out more useful plants with its large flat leaves. Hungry stock forced to eat stemless thistle suffer from stomach ailments; liver and kidney damage can also occur.

Distribution in the US

NOT KNOWN TO BE ESTABLISHED IN THE US OUTSIDE OF CULTIVATION.