



**OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE**

**Noxious Weed Policy
and Classification
2025**

Noxious Weed Control Program

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www.oregon.gov/ODA/programs/Weeds/Pages/AboutWeeds.aspx

Mission Statement

To protect Oregon's natural resources and agricultural economy from the invasion and proliferation of invasive noxious weeds.

Program Overview

The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) Noxious Weed Control Program provides statewide leadership for coordination and management of state listed noxious weeds. The state program focuses on noxious weed control efforts by implementing early detection and rapid response projects for new invasive noxious weeds, implementing biological control, implementing statewide inventory and survey, assisting the public and cooperators through technology transfer and noxious weed education, maintaining noxious weed data and maps for priority listed noxious weeds, and assisting land managers and cooperators with integrated weed management projects. The Noxious Weed Control Program also supports the Oregon State Weed Board (OSWB) with administration of the OSWB Grant Program, developing statewide management objectives, developing weed risk assessments, and maintaining the state noxious weed list.

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Noxious Weed Control Policy and Classification System

Definition

“Noxious weed” means a terrestrial, aquatic or marine plant designated by the Oregon State Weed Board under ORS 569.615 as among those representing the greatest public menace and as a top priority for action by weed control programs.

Noxious weeds have become so thoroughly established and are spreading so rapidly on private, state, county, and federally owned lands, that they have been declared by ORS 569.350 to be a menace to public welfare. Steps leading to eradication, where possible, and intensive control are necessary. It is further recognized that the responsibility for eradication and intensive control rests not only on the private landowner and operator, but also on the county, state, and federal governments.

Weed Control Policy

Therefore, it shall be the policy of ODA to:

1. Assess non-native plants through risk assessment processes and make recommendations to the Oregon State Weed Board for potential listing.
2. Rate and classify weeds at the state level.
3. Prevent the establishment and spread of listed noxious weeds.
4. Encourage and implement the control or containment of infestations of listed noxious weed species and, if possible, eradicate them.
5. Develop and manage a biological weed control program.
6. Increase awareness of potential economic losses and other undesirable effects of existing and newly invading noxious weeds, and to act as a resource center for the dissemination of information.
7. Encourage and assist in the organization and operation of noxious weed control programs with government agencies and other weed management entities.
8. Develop partnerships with county weed control districts, universities, and other cooperators in the development of control methods.
9. Conduct statewide noxious weed surveys and weed control efficacy studies.

Weed Classification System

The purpose of this Classification System is to:

1. Act as the ODA's official guideline for prioritizing and implementing noxious weed control projects.
2. Assist the ODA in the distribution of available funds through the Oregon State Weed Board to assist county weed programs, cooperative weed management groups, private landowners, and other weed management entities.
3. Serve as a model for private and public sectors in developing noxious weed classification systems that aid in setting effective noxious weed control strategies.

Criteria for Determining Economic and Environmental Significance

Detrimental Effects

1. A plant species that causes or has the potential to cause severe negative impacts to Oregon's agricultural economy and natural resources.
2. A plant species that has the potential to or does endanger native flora and fauna by its encroachment into forest, range, aquatic and conservation areas.
3. A plant species that has the potential or does hamper the full utilization and enjoyment of recreational areas.
4. A plant species that is poisonous, injurious, or otherwise harmful to humans and/or animals.

Plant Reproduction

1. A plant that reproduces by seed capable of being dispersed over wide areas or that is long-lived, or produced in large numbers.
2. A plant species that reproduces and spreads by tubers, creeping roots, stolons, rhizomes, or other natural vegetative means.

Distribution

1. A weed of known economic importance which occurs in Oregon in small enough infestations to make eradication/containment possible; or not known to occur, but its presence in neighboring states makes future occurrence seem imminent.
2. A weed of economic or ecological importance and of limited distribution in Oregon.
3. A weed that has not infested the full extent of its potential habitat in Oregon.

Difficulty of Control

A plant species that is not easily controlled with current management practices such as chemical, cultural, biological, and physical methods.

Noxious Weed Classification Definitions

Noxious weeds, for the purpose of this system, shall be listed as either A or B, and may also be designated as T, which are priority targets for control, as directed by the Oregon State Weed Board.

A-Listed Noxious Weed:

A weed of known economic importance which occurs in the state in small enough infestations to make eradication or containment possible; or is not known to occur, but its presence in neighboring states make future occurrence in Oregon seem imminent (Table I).

Recommended action: Focus on prevention of new infestations through vector control, certification programs, education, outreach and surveys. New and existing infestations are prioritized for eradication or intensive control when and where found. Regionally focused, species-specific Statewide Management Strategies for A-listed weeds may be developed as necessary.

B-Listed Noxious Weed:

A weed of economic importance which is regionally abundant, but which may have limited distribution in some counties (Table II).

Recommended action: Limited to intensive control at the state, county or regional level as determined on a site specific, case-by-case basis. Where implementation of a fully integrated statewide management plan is not feasible, biological control (when available) shall be the primary control method.

T-Designation (T):

A designated group of weed species selected from the B list as a focus for prevention and control by the Noxious Weed Control Program. T-designated noxious weeds are determined by the Oregon State Weed Board and management actions are prioritized and informed by species-specific T-List Statewide Management Strategies created and maintained by the ODA. Action against these weeds will receive priority in accordance with the recommendations of the Statewide Management Strategy.

Weed Biological Control

Oregon implements biological control, or “biocontrol” as part of its integrated pest management approach to managing noxious weeds. This is the practice of using host-specific natural enemies such as insects or pathogens to control noxious weeds. The Oregon Department of Agriculture Noxious Weed Program has adopted the International Code of Best Practices for biological control of weeds. Only safe, effective, and federally- approved natural enemies will be used for biocontrol.

Table I: A-Listed Weeds

Common Name	Scientific Name
African rue	<i>Peganum harmala</i>
Camelthorn	<i>Alhagi pseudalhagi</i>
Cape-ivy	<i>Delairea odorata</i>
Coltsfoot	<i>Tussilago farfara</i>
Common frogbit	<i>Hydrocharis morsus-ranae</i>
Cordgrass Common Dense-flowered Saltmeadow Smooth	<i>Spartina anglica</i> <i>Spartina densiflora</i> <i>Spartina patens</i> <i>Spartina alterniflora</i>
Delta arrowhead	<i>Sagittaria platyphyla</i>
European water chestnut	<i>Trapa natans</i>
Flowering rush	<i>Butomus umbellatus</i>
Garden yellow loosestrife	<i>Lysimachia vulgaris</i>
Giant hogweed	<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>
Goatgrass Barbed Ovate	<i>Aegilops triuncialis</i> <i>Aegilops ovata</i>
Goatsrue	<i>Galega officinalis</i>
Hawkweed King-devil Mouse-ear Orange Yellow	<i>Hieracium piloselloides</i> <i>Hieracium pilosella</i> <i>Hieracium aurantiacum</i> <i>Hieracium floribundum</i>
Hoary alyssum	<i>Berteroa incana</i>
Hydrilla	<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>
Japanese dodder	<i>Cuscuta japonica</i>
Kudzu	<i>Pueraria lobata</i>

(Continued)

Table I: A-Listed Weeds

Common Name	Scientific Name
Matgrass	<i>Nardus stricta</i>
Oblong spurge	<i>Euphorbia oblongata</i>
Palmer amaranth	<i>Amaranthus palmeri</i>
Paterson's curse	<i>Echium plantagineum</i>
Purple nutsedge	<i>Cyperus rotundus</i>
Ravennagrass	<i>Saccharum ravennae</i>
Roundleaf bittersweet	<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>
Smooth frogbit (W. Indian spongeplant)	<i>Limnobium laevigatum</i>
Squarrose knapweed	<i>Centaurea virgata</i>
Starthistle Iberian Purple	<i>Centaurea iberica</i> <i>Centaurea calcitrapa</i>
Stinkwort (stinkweed)	<i>Dittrichia graveolens</i>
Thistle Plumeless Smooth distaff Taurian Turkish Wetted (curly plumeless) Woolly distaff	<i>Carduus acanthoides</i> <i>Carthamus baeticus</i> <i>Onopordum tauricum</i> <i>Carduus cinereus</i> <i>Carduus crispus</i> <i>Carthamus lanatus</i>
Water soldiers	<i>Stratiotes aloides</i>
White bryonia	<i>Bryonia alba</i>
Yellow floating heart	<i>Nymphoides peltata</i>
Yellowtuft	<i>Alyssum murale</i> , <i>A. corsicum</i>

Table II: B-Listed Weeds

Common Name	Scientific Name
Armenian (Himalayan) blackberry	<i>Rubus armeniacus</i> (<i>R. procerus</i> , <i>R. discolor</i>)
Biddy-biddy	<i>Acaena novae-zelandiae</i>
Broom French* Portuguese (T) Scotch* Spanish	<i>Genista monspessulana</i> <i>Cytisus striatus</i> <i>Cytisus scoparius</i> <i>Spartium junceum</i>
Butterfly bush	<i>Buddleja davidii</i> (<i>B. variabilis</i>)
Common bugloss (T)	<i>Anchusa officinalis</i>
Common crupina (T)	<i>Crupina vulgaris</i>
Common reed	<i>Phragmites australis</i> ssp. <i>australis</i>
Cutleaf teasel	<i>Dipsacus laciniatus</i>
Dyer's woad (T)	<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>
English hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>
Eurasian watermilfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>
False brome	<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>
Field bindweed	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>
Garlic mustard (T)	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>
Geranium Herb Robert Shiny leaf	<i>Geranium robertianum</i> <i>Geranium lucidum</i>
Giant reed (T)	<i>Arundo donax</i>
Gorse* (T)	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>
Halogeton	<i>Halogeton glomeratus</i>
Houndstongue	<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>

* Biocontrol (See page 4)

(T) T-Designated Weed (See page 4)

(Continued)

Table II: B Listed Weeds

Common Name	Scientific Name
Indigo bush	<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>
Ivy Atlantic English	<i>Hedera hibernica</i> <i>Hedera helix</i>
Jointed goatgrass	<i>Aegilops cylindrica</i>
Jubata grass	<i>Cortaderia jubata</i>
Knapweed Diffuse* Meadow* Russian* Spotted*	<i>Centaurea diffusa</i> <i>Centaurea pratensis</i> <i>Acroptilon repens</i> <i>Centaurea stoebe (C. maculosa)</i>
Knotweed Bohemian* Giant* Himalayan Japanese*	<i>Fallopia x bohemica</i> <i>Fallopia sachalinensis (Polygonum)</i> <i>Polygonum polystachyum</i> <i>Fallopia japonica (Polygonum)</i>
Kochia	<i>Kochia scoparia</i>
Lesser celandine	<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>
Meadow hawkweed (T)	<i>Pilosella caespitosum (Hieracium)</i>
Mediterranean sage*	<i>Salvia aethiopis</i>
Medusahead rye	<i>Taeniatherum caput-medusae</i>
Old man's beard	<i>Clematis vitalba</i>
Parrot feather	<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>
Perennial peavine	<i>Lathyrus latifolius</i>
Perennial pepperweed (T)	<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>
Pheasant's eye	<i>Adonis aestivalis</i>

* Biocontrol (See page 4)

(T) T-Designated Weed (See page 4)

(Continued)

Table II: B Listed Weeds

Common Name	Scientific Name
Pine echium (T)	<i>Echium pininana</i>
Poison hemlock*	<i>Conium maculatum</i>
Policeman's helmet	<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>
Primrose-willow Large-flower (T) Water primrose (T) Floating (T)	<i>Ludwigia grandiflora</i> <i>Ludwigia hexapetala</i> <i>Ludwigia peploides</i>
Puncturevine*	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>
Purple loosestrife*	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
Ribbongrass (T)	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i> var. <i>Picta</i>
Rose Dog Sweetbriar	<i>Rosa canina</i> <i>Rosa rubiginosa</i>
Rush skeletonweed* (T)	<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>
Saltcedar* (T)	<i>Tamarix ramosissima</i>
Small broomrape	<i>Orbanche minor</i>
South American waterweed	<i>Egeria densa</i> (<i>Elodea</i>)
Spanish heath	<i>Erica lusitanica</i>
Spurge laurel	<i>Daphne laureola</i>
Spurge Leafy* (T) Myrtle	<i>Euphorbia esula</i> <i>Euphorbia myrsinites</i>
St. Johnswort	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>
Sulfur cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla recta</i>

* Biocontrol (See page 4)

(T) T-Designated Weed (See page 4)

(Continued)

Table II: B Listed Weeds

Common Name	Scientific Name
Swainsonpea	<i>Sphaerophysa salsula</i>
Tansy ragwort* (T)	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i> (<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>)
Thistle Bull Canada* Italian Milk Musk Scotch Slender-flowered	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i> <i>Cirsium arvense</i> <i>Carduus pycnocephalus</i> <i>Silybum marianum</i> <i>Carduus nutans</i> <i>Onopordum acanthium</i> <i>Carduus tenuiflorus</i>
Toadflax Dalmatian* Yellow*	<i>Linaria dalmatica</i> <i>Linaria vulgaris</i>
Tree of heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>
Ventenata grass	<i>Ventenata dubia</i>
Viper's bugloss (T)	<i>Echium vulgare</i>
Whitetop Hairy Lens-podded Whitetop (hoary cress)*	<i>Lepidium pubescens</i> <i>Lepidium chalepensis</i> <i>Lepidium draba</i>
Yellow archangel	<i>Lamium galeobdolon</i>
Yellow bush lupine	<i>Lupinus arboreus</i>
Yellow flag iris	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>
Yellow nutsedge	<i>Cyperus esculentus</i>
Yellow starthistle*	<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>

* Biocontrol (See page 4)

(T) T-Designated Weed (See page 4)