

“B” Rated Weeds

A weed of economic importance which is regionally abundant,
but may have limited distribution in some counties

Dalmatian toadflax
Linaria dalmatica

Other common names:

USDA symbol: LIDA
ODA rating: B and T



Introduction: Dalmatian Toadflax was introduced to the U.S. in the mid 1800s and is now considered an escaped ornamental. The native range is the Dalmatian Coast of Croatia in the Mediterranean. Decades ago, it was often included in wildflower mixes for roadside beautification programs. Primarily an invader of rangeland and forest openings in the west, it dominates sites, competing with desirable species and forage.

Distribution: Though predominantly an Eastern Oregon pest with large outbreaks in Harney, Grant and Klamath Counties, the plant also survives in Western Oregon mainly on well-drained road shoulders.

Description: This perennial grows two-three feet tall with thick water-conserving stems and leaves. It is very drought tolerant. The leaves are waxy, green, heart-shaped and one-three inches long. Flowers are one inch long and similar to snapdragons and very showy. Dispersal is both by seed and by creeping lateral roots.

Impacts: The economic impacts of this weed are felt on rangeland where toadflax displaces native forbs and grasses, reducing the carrying capacity of the land. It is a very tough plant to kill with herbicides.

Biological controls: The stem-boring weevil *Mecinus Janthiniformis* was introduced in 2001 and has since exhibited excellent control with reductions on Dalmatian toadflax stands statewide. Several other biocontrol agents have been approved released but have not shown significant impact.

