

New additions to the state weed list and other 'new' weeds

Wendy DesCamp, WSNWCB

May 16, 2018



Today's talk

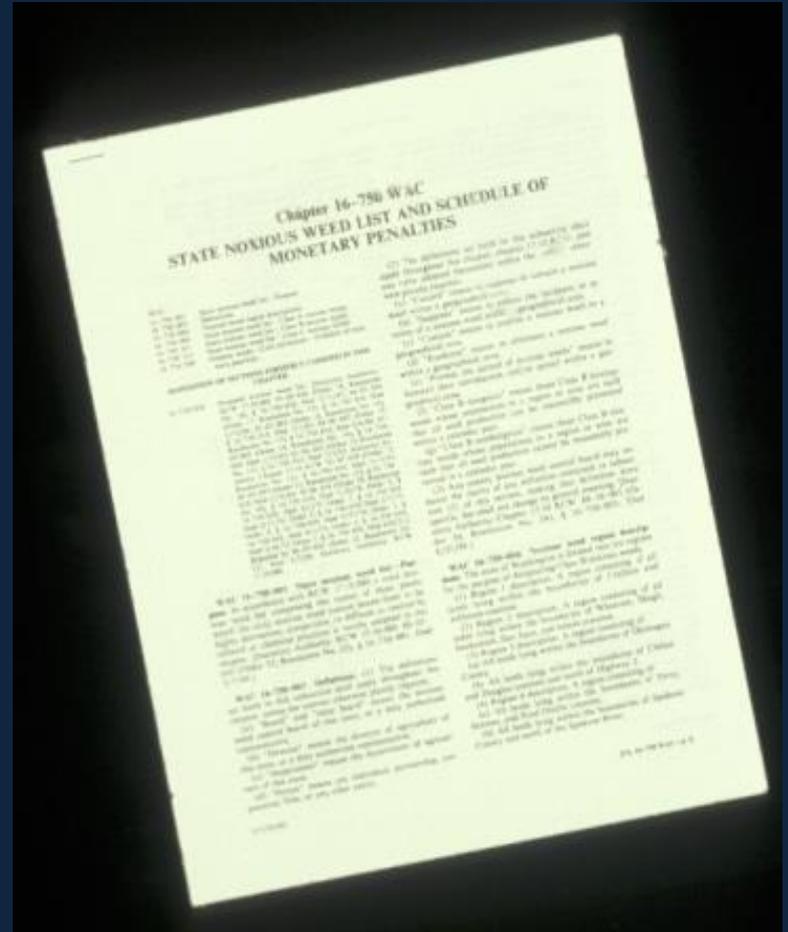
- Noxious weed law review (quick!)
- New noxious weeds for 2018
- Be on the lookout for these noxious weeds



Noxious Weed

- “Noxious weed” means a plant that when established is highly destructive, competitive, or difficult to control by cultural or chemical practices.

RCW 17.10.10



Noxious Weeds

- Plants are noted as aggressive and highly difficult to control
- Plants have a significant ecological impact, economic impact and/or cause harm to people and animals

Poison hemlock, *Conium maculatum*



The Noxious Weed Laws

- **Chapter 17.10 RCW**
 - Limit economic loss due to the presence and spread of noxious weeds
- **WAC 16.750**
 - Weed list and schedule of penalties
- **WAC 16.752**
 - Prohibited plants, aka the quarantine list

2018
Washington State
Noxious Weed List



Image by Bud Hardwick

Malta starthistle, *Centaurea melitensis*, is a new Class B noxious weed for 2018.

List arranged alphabetically by:
COMMON NAME



Washington State
Noxious Weed
Control Board

PLANTS AND SEEDS WHOSE SALES ARE PROHIBITED IN WASHINGTON STATE

A Summary of Current Regulations on Sales of Noxious Weeds and Other Invasive Exotic Plants



WAC 16-752-600 through 660

Washington State
Department of Agriculture
Plant Protection Division
Plant Services Program
Revised August 2016

Class A Noxious Weeds

- Class A consists of those noxious weeds
 - not native to the Washington
 - of limited distribution or are unrecorded in the state and
 - that pose a serious threat to the state
- Eradication is required of all Class A noxious weeds
- Currently 36 species

Highest Priority



Kudzu (*Pueraria montana* var. *lobata*)

Class B Noxious Weeds

Scotch broom (*Cytisus scoparius*)



Image: Thurston County NWCB

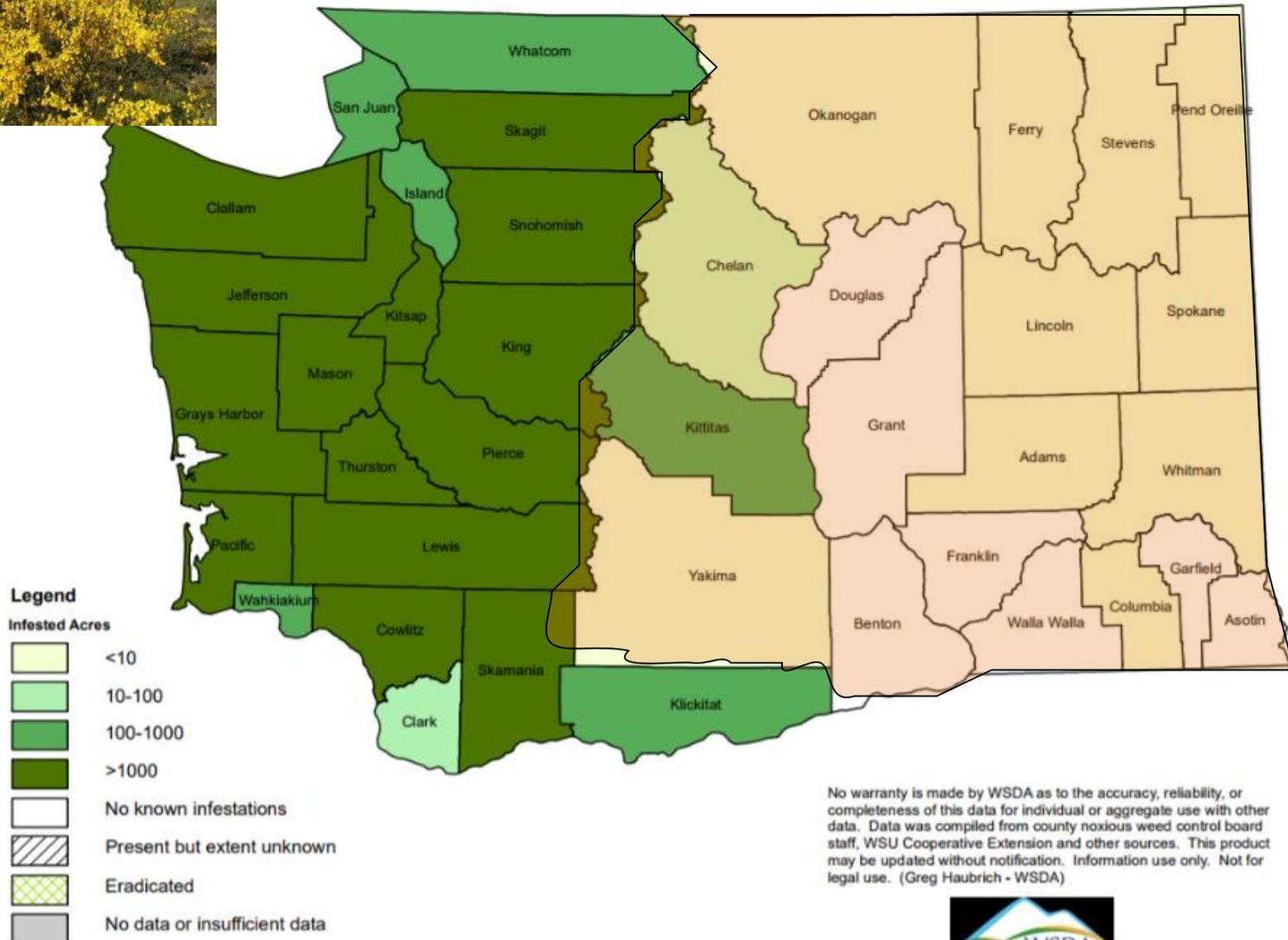
- Class B: not native to the state and are of limited distribution or are unrecorded in a region of the state and that pose a serious threat to that region.
- Class B designate
- "Control" of noxious weeds means to prevent all seed production and to prevent the dispersal of all propagative parts capable of forming new plants.
- Currently 66 species

Class B example



Scotch Broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) Distribution 2016

Updated: 2/12/2017



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Class B Designate Weeds

- Automatically placed on county weed list
- Control and prevent the spread
- Goal: eventual eradication

Class B Non-Designate Weeds

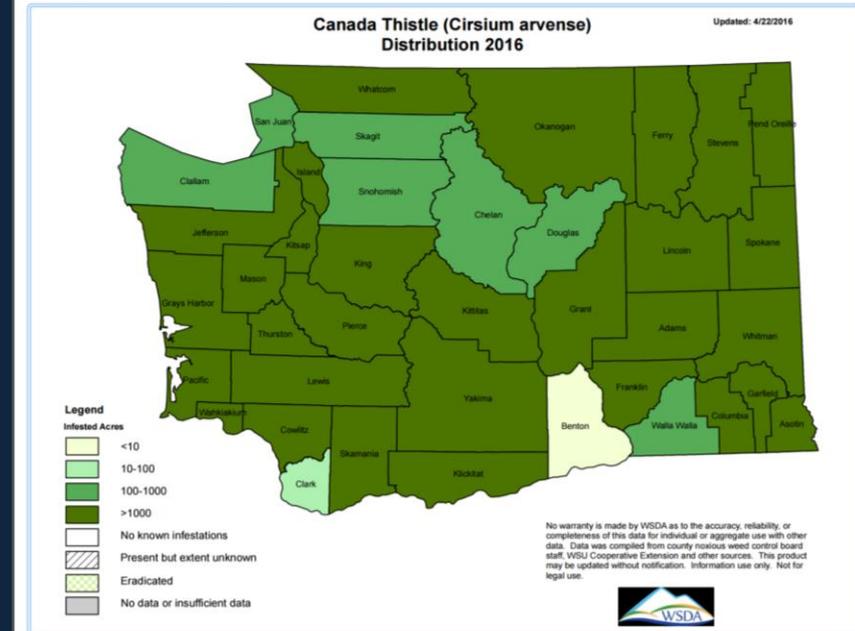
- County weed boards have ability to place on their weed list
- Goal: educate, encourage control, prevent spread to designated areas

Tansy ragwort, Class B



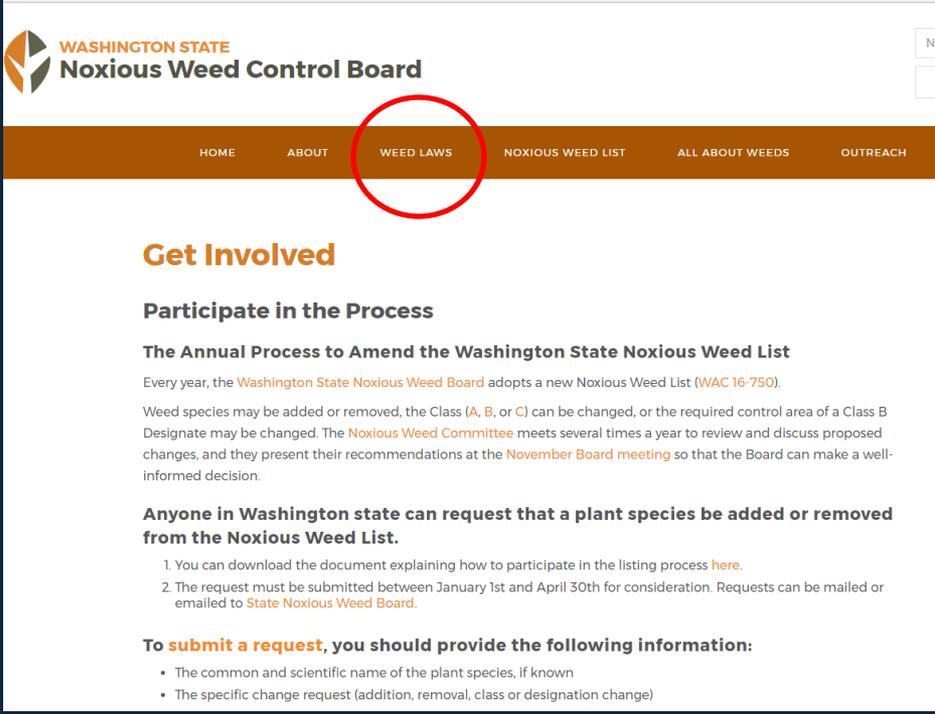
Class C Noxious Weeds

- All other noxious weeds
 - Already widespread in Washington or are of a special interest to the agricultural industry
- Some counties may select for control, but many choose to pursue education
- Currently 51 species



The Noxious Weed listing process

- Jan-April: submission of proposals
- May: Noxious Weed Committee (NWC) begins to review requested changes
- September: NWC makes recommendations to State Weed Board
- November: Public hearing, State Weed Board votes on changes
- January: New changes take effect in new Noxious Weed List



WASHINGTON STATE
Noxious Weed Control Board

HOME ABOUT **WEED LAWS** NOXIOUS WEED LIST ALL ABOUT WEEDS OUTREACH

Get Involved

Participate in the Process

The Annual Process to Amend the Washington State Noxious Weed List

Every year, the [Washington State Noxious Weed Board](#) adopts a new Noxious Weed List ([WAC 16-750](#)).

Weed species may be added or removed, the Class (A, B, or C) can be changed, or the required control area of a Class B Designate may be changed. The [Noxious Weed Committee](#) meets several times a year to review and discuss proposed changes, and they present their recommendations at the [November Board meeting](#) so that the Board can make a well-informed decision.

Anyone in Washington state can request that a plant species be added or removed from the Noxious Weed List.

1. You can download the document explaining how to participate in the listing process [here](#).
2. The request must be submitted between January 1st and April 30th for consideration. Requests can be mailed or emailed to [State Noxious Weed Board](#).

To submit a request, you should provide the following information:

- The common and scientific name of the plant species, if known
- The specific change request (addition, removal, class or designation change)

Noxious weeds are not all “bad” – nothing is black and white

- We weigh the beneficial uses with the detrimental impacts
- Some plants provide erosion control, ornamental value, medicinal properties, or nectar and pollen for bees, but their ecological or economic impacts outweigh the beneficial uses.



Images: Tim Miller WSU Extension

Butterfly bush

Monitor List

- Gather more information on suspect weeds
- Monitor for occurrence or spread
- Information collected may be used to justify future inclusion on the state noxious weed list
- No legal or regulatory aspect to this list (WAC 16-750-025)

Green alkanet (*Pentaglottis sempervirens*)



2018 noxious weed list changes

Additions:

- *Impatiens parviflora*, small-flowered jewelweed - Class A
- *Tussilago farfara*, European coltsfoot - Class B
- *Centaurea melitensis*, Malta starthistle - Class B
- *Myriophyllum spicatum* x *Myriophyllum sibiricum* hybrid - Class C
- *Impatiens capensis*, spotted jewelweed - Class C



2018 noxious weed list changes

Additions:

- • *Impatiens parviflora*, small-flowered jewelweed - Class A
- *Tussilago farfara*, European coltsfoot - Class B
- *Centaurea melitensis*, Malta starthistle - Class B
- *Myriophyllum spicatum* x *Myriophyllum sibiricum* hybrid - Class C
- • *Impatiens capensis*, spotted jewelweed - Class C

Reclassification

- Reclassify *Thymelaea passerina*, spurge flax, from a Class A to a Class B

Class B designation changes

Native species

Impatiens aurella,
pale yellow touch-me-not



Impatiens ecornuta,
spurless touch-me-not



© 2005, Ben Legler

Impatiens noli-tangere,
western touch-me-not



Non-native species

Native species

Impatiens aurella,
pale yellow touch-me-not



Impatiens ecornuta,
spurless touch-me-not



© 2005, Ben Legler

Impatiens noli-tangere,
western touch-me-not



Non-native species

Impatiens glandulifera, policeman's-helmet



Impatiens parviflora, small-flowered touch-me-not



Impatiens balfourii, Kashmir balsam



Spotted jewelweed, *Impatiens capensis*



Images: Peter Zika

Native species

Non-native species

Impatiens aurella,
pale yellow touch-me-not



Impatiens ecornuta,
spurless touch-me-not



Impatiens noli-tangere,
western touch-me-not



Impatiens glandulifera, policeman's-helmet



Class B

Impatiens parviflora, small-flowered touch-me-not



Impatiens balfourii, Kashmir balsam



Spotted jewelweed, *Impatiens capensis*



Hybrid

Impatiens x pacifica

Images: Peter Zika

Native species

Non-native species

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© 2005, Ben Legler

Impatiens noli-tangere,
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Impatiens glandulifera, policeman's-helmet



Class B

Impatiens parviflora, small-flowered touch-me-not



New!
Class A

Impatiens halfourii, Kashmir balsam



Spotted jewelweed, *Impatiens capensis*

New!
Class C



Hybrid

Impatiens x pacifica

Images: Peter Zika

Impatiens parviflora, small-flowered jewelweed

- Class A noxious weed
- Native to Asia
- Annual, hairless, up to about 1 meter
- Leaves alternate, sharply serrated margins
- Flowers one to several in upper leaf axils, pale yellow
 - Also self-fertilizing flowers



Image by Alexander J. Wright



Image by Alexander J. Wright



Image by Tim Miller

Small-flowered jewelweed

- Capsules, up to 1 inch, elastically dehiscent, 1 to 5 seeds
- Spreads by seed, 220 seeds to 1,000-2,000 seeds per plant
- Invasive in Europe, widespread
- Dominating herbaceous layer



Image by Wayne C. Weber



Barbara Tokarska-Guzik, University of Silesia, Bugwood.org

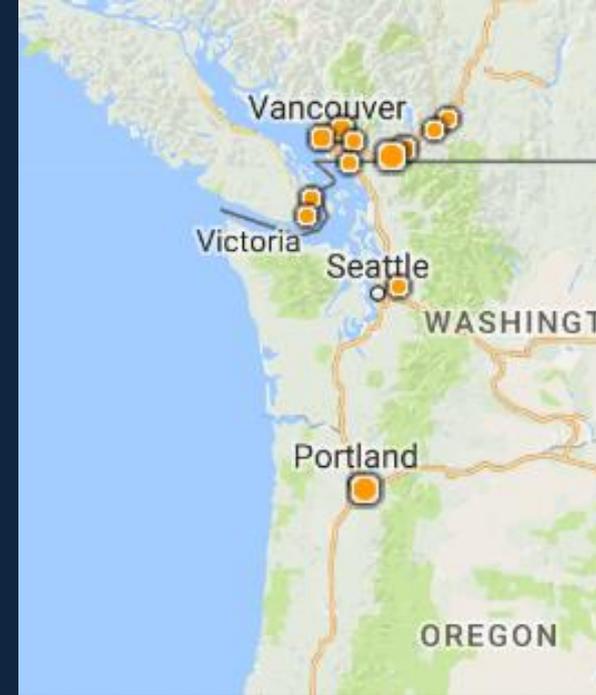
UGA2138039

Small-flowered jewelweed

- U.S.: Washington, Oregon, Wisconsin
 - only two locations
- Grows in shade to part-shade, dry to moist soils: wooded areas, forest edges, paths, riverbanks

Control

- Hand pulling
- Herbicide



Spotted jewelweed, *Impatiens capensis*

- Spotted touch-me-not
- Class C noxious weed
- Native east of Rocky Mountains and Canada
- Hairless annual
- Stems ~2 to 5 ft.



(c) Steven J. Baskauf, 2003



© 2009, G. D. Carr

Spotted jewelweed

- Leaves alternate
- Petioles to ~1.5"
- Blades to ~ 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ "
- Rounded teeth with sharp point





Image by Whatcom County NWCB



- Two kinds of flowers
- Flowers spurred
- Spurs hooked or curve
- Flowers with or without spots (more commonly with spots)
- Flower spots are red to orange
- August-October



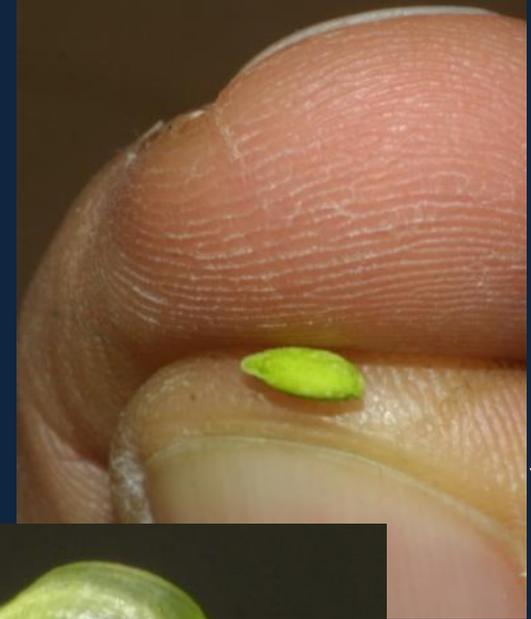
Image: © 2004, Ben Legler



Image: © 2004, Ben Legler

Fruit/Seed

- Capsule ~ 1 inch
- Explosively open and propel seeds a short distance
- Seeds shoot 4 – 6 feet



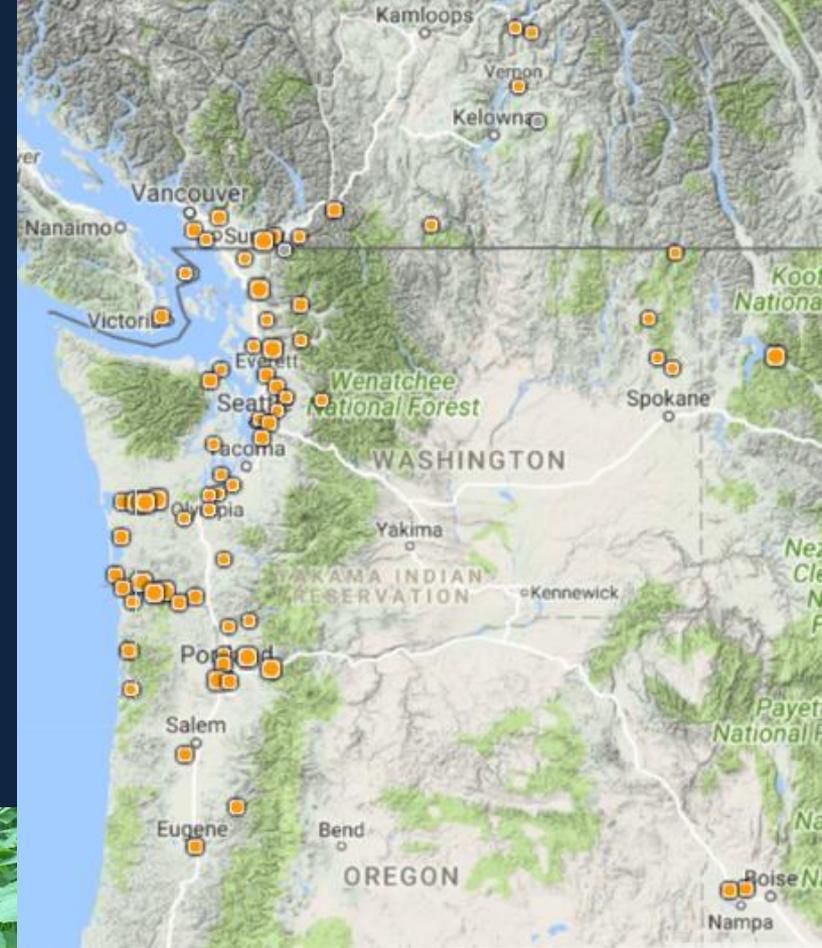
2003, Steven J. Baskauf



2003, Steven J. Baskauf

Spotted jewelweed

- Moist soils
- Often in ditches and along streams
- Shores of river sloughs, ponds, moist woods, riparian forests



Spotted jewelweed



Image by Warren Gold



- *Impatiens capensis* and *Impatiens ecornuta*, spurless jewelweed, hybridize to produce *Impatiens x pacifica*
- Can survive in tough, variable conditions
- Populations noted as increasing in Washington
 - Being found in areas of knotweed control

Control

- Hand pull
- Herbicide (triclopyr, glyphosate)

Tussilago farfara, European coltsfoot

- Class B noxious weed; designated in WA except for Grant, Lincoln, Adams, Benton and Franklin counties
- Native to Europe, Asia, North Africa
- Rhizomatous perennial 2 to 20 inches
- Flowering stems grow first in spring
 - Small leaves
 - Tip of stem, yellow flowerhead, disk and ray flowers



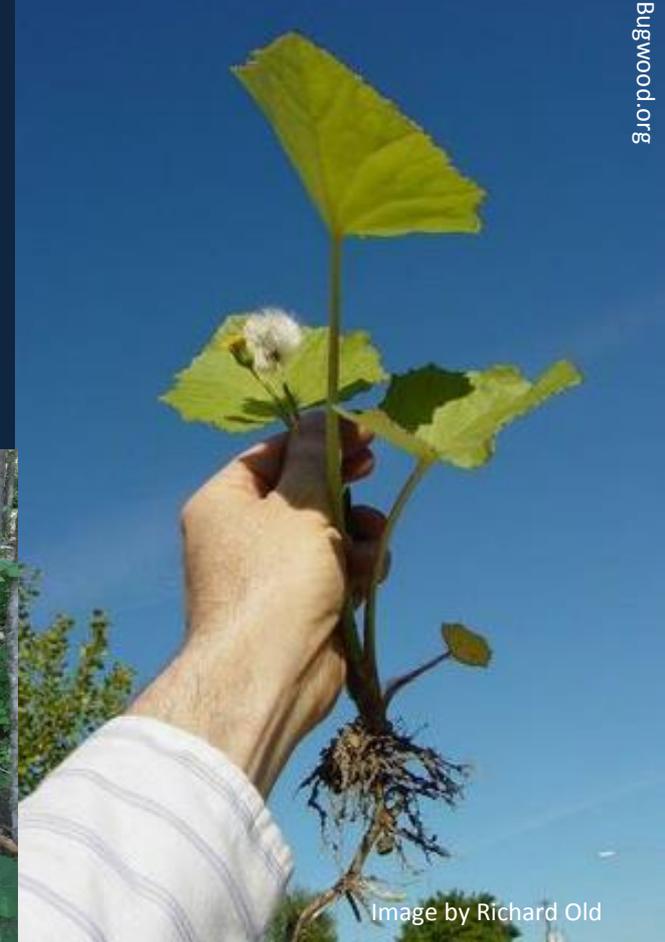
Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Image by Richard Old

Tussilago farfara, European coltsfoot

- Leaves sprout during to after flowering
 - Basal leaves grow from rhizomes, up to 11.8 inches long
 - white-woolly below
- Seed production varies depending on conditions
- Spreads by windblown seeds or by rhizomes



European coltsfoot



Patrick Sowers 2014



Flower and seed images by Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

Sweet coltsfoot; *Petasites frigidus* var. *palmatus*



© 2003, Ben Legler



Walter Siegmund, CC BY-SA 3.0



Pathfinder; *Adenocaulon bicolor*



By Mount Rainier National Park, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/>



Images by Tricia MacLaren

European coltsfoot

Control:

- Small amounts: may be dug out
- Establish competition
- Herbicide to fully emerged leaves, glyphosate
 - Tests underway



Tim Miller, WSU Extension



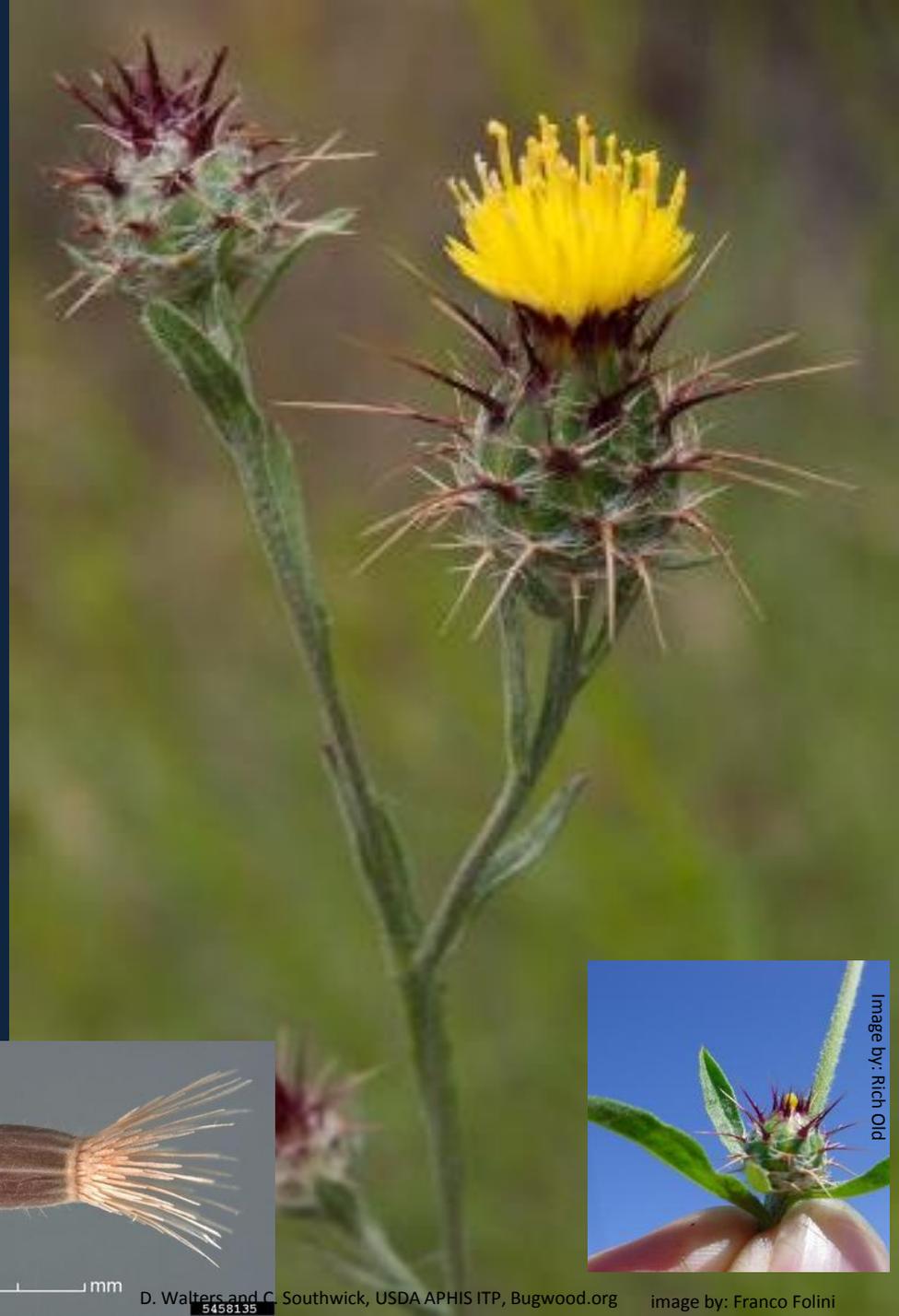
Centaurea melitensis, Malta starthistle

- Class B noxious weed listing;
(designations same as yellow
starthistle, *Centaurea solstitialis*)
 - All of Washington except in Klickitat,
Whitman, Benton, Franklin, Walla
Walla, Columbia, Garfield, and
Asotin counties, and a portion of
Stevens County
- Native to Europe and Northern
Africa
- Annual, to 36 inches tall, loosely
gray-tomentose, the stem with
narrow wings
- Leaves
 - Basal and lower stem leaves:
margins entire to dentate lobed,
to 6 inches
 - Middle and upper leaves smaller,
linear-oblong and entire



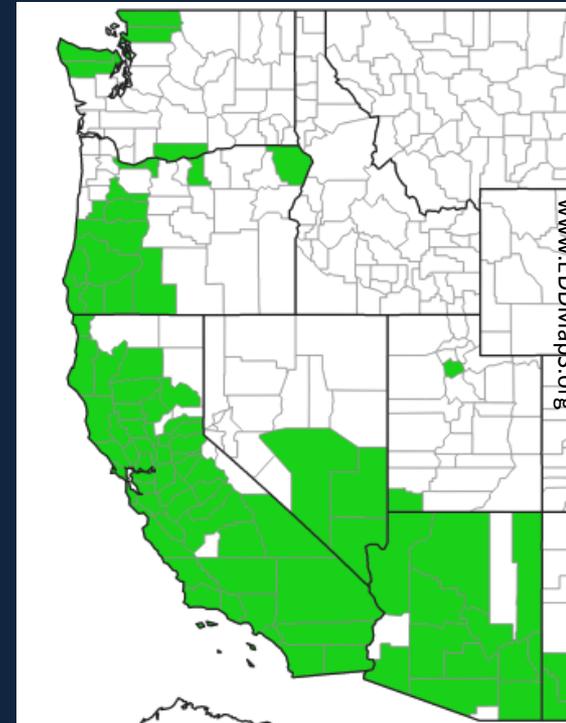
Centaurea melitensis, Malta starthistle

- Flowerheads solitary or in groups of 2-3; often with covered with cobwebby hairs; round-oval in shape
- Principle bracts: tipped by spine 0.2 to 0.5 inches, purplish, spiny-fringed at base
- All disk flowers; pappus 1.5-3 mm. long



Malta starthistle

- Washington:
 - Most records prior to 1939
 - 1931 specimen from Sequim (gravel bank)
 - Skagit County, Cypress Island (2016)
- Prefers disturbed and open areas, including grasslands, open woodlands, agricultural fields and roadsides
- Less aggressive than yellow starthistle, it still spreads quickly by producing great quantities of seed if given the proper conditions
- Potentially toxic to horses— "chewing disease" or E.N.E. (Equine nigropallidal encephalomalacia) --suspected of producing the disease, but as yet its toxicity has not been confirmed experimentally



Malta starthistle

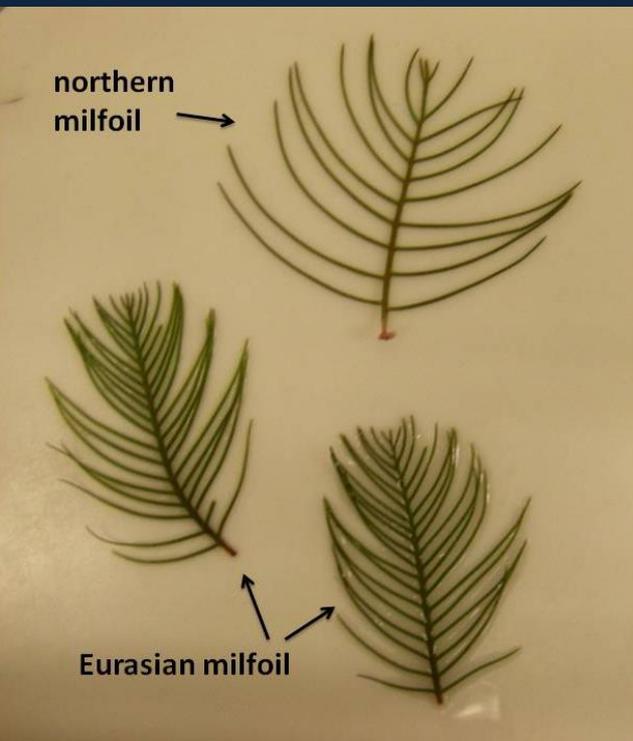
- Control methods similar to yellow starthistle
- Prevention
- Hand-pull, disposal (repeat)
- Grazing: Sheep, goats, and cattle may graze in early spring when plants have developed flowering stems, before spiny flowerheads
- Many herbicides can be used



image by: Bud Hardwick

Eurasian watermilfoil hybrid

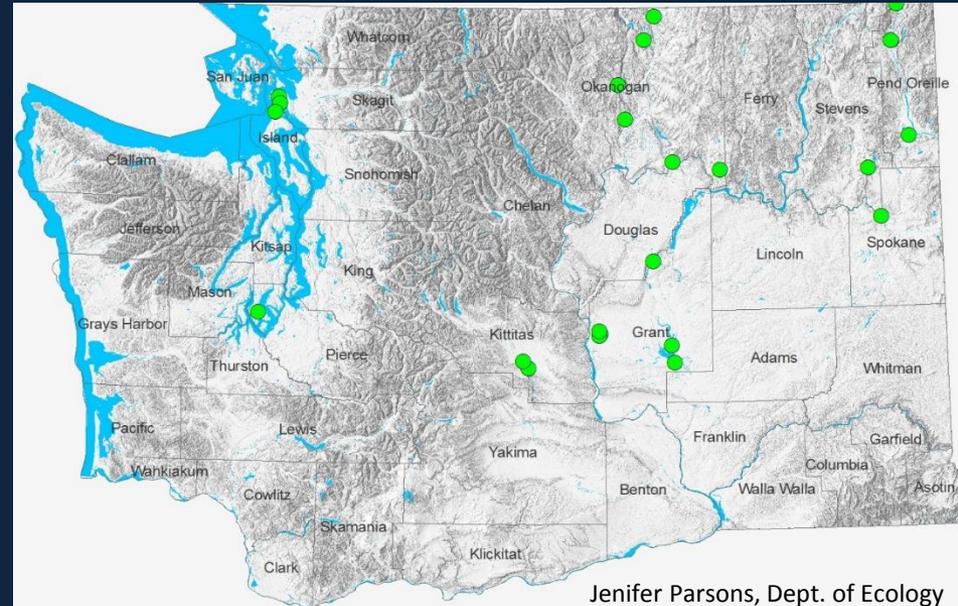
- Class C noxious weed
- *M. spicatum*: Class B noxious weed (native to Europe, Asia, North Africa) hybridizing with *M. sibiricum*, northern watermilfoil.
- Many hybrid strains



Two hybrid watermilfoil stems on the left and one northern watermilfoil stem on the right, plants from Stevens County

- Genetic and morphological analysis is needed for confident ID
- Hybrids documented in Washington: pretty widespread, more in eastern WA
 - Douglas/Okanogan County: Rufus Woods Lake
 - Okanogan: Buffalo Lake, Leader Lake, Osoyoos Lake, Spectacle Lake, Conconully (Salmon) Lake
 - Grant County: Blue Lake, Burke Lake, Corral Lake, Evergreen Lake, Stan Coffin Lake, Moses Lake
 - Kittitas County: Fiorito Ponds, Mattoon Lake
 - Pend Oreille County: Boundary Reservoir, Davis Lake, Pend Oreille River
 - Pierce County: Bay Lake
 - Skagit County: Campbell Lake, Heart Lake (35N-01E-36)
 - Spokane County: Nine Mile Reservoir
 - Stevens County: Loon Lake
 - Island County: Cranberry Lake
- Not all strains of hybrid are bad actors; pretty widespread
- Department of Ecology—testing information

Eurasian watermilfoil hybrid



**WATCH OUT FOR THESE NOXIOUS
WEEDS!**

Milk thistle, *Silybum marianum*

- Class A
- Western Asia, Europe and Northern Africa
- Annual to biennial
- Taproot
- Forms large rosettes
- Dark green leaves with distinct white patches or marbling
- Basal leaves deeply lobed, up to 24 inches long
- Margins with spines



Milk thistle, *Silybum marianum*



© Richard Old



Angelica Velazquez, Cowitz County NWCB

- Stem leaves reduce in size, less lobed
- Stems hollow, branched
- Each stem produces single flowerhead, up to 2 inches
- Stiff leathery bracts, having spiny margins and tip
- Purple-pink flowers
- seeds ~1/4" long, smooth, shiny, with tuft of minutely barbed bristles, falls off in ring when seed matures



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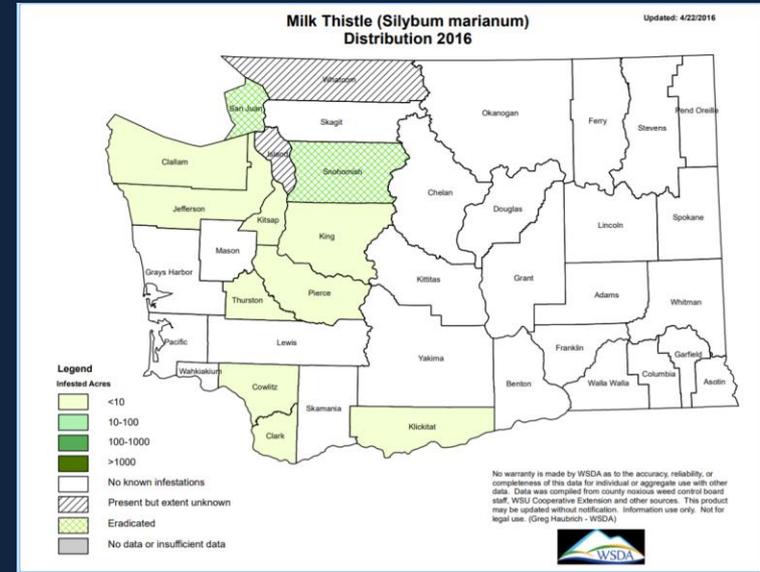
D. Walters and C. Southwick, Table Grape Weed Disseminule ID, USDA APHIS ITP, Bugwood.org



© Richard Old

Milk thistle

- Prefers fertile soils
- Often grows in pastures, roadsides, ditches, disturbed areas
- Forms dense stands
- Accumulates nitrates, can be toxic, even deadly, to livestock



English hawthorn, *Crataegus monogyna*

- Common hawthorn, one-seeded hawthorn
- Class C
- Asia, Europe, and northern Africa
- Deciduous large shrub to tree
- Twigs often thorn-tipped



Crataegus monogyna - Wikimedia.org/wiki/index.php?curid=67233



Ben Legler, 2006



English hawthorn, *Crataegus monogyna*

- Deciduous, alternate
- Clustered on short shoots
- 0.4 to 2.6 inches long
- 3 to 7 deep lobes
- Toothed margins, near lobe tips

English hawthorn, *Crataegus monogyna*

- Flowers in dense, flat topped clusters (panicle)
- 10-20 flowers
- .05 to 0.63 inch diameter
- 5 white petals, age pinkish
- 5 to 25 stamens with pink-purple anthers
- Flowers have one style





- Fruit: drupe-like pome, elliptical to spherical, 0.25 to 0.47 inch long by 0.20 to 0.39 inches diameter
- Bright red
- Persistent reflexed sepals at tip of fruits
- 1 nutlet (sometimes 2) in each fruit

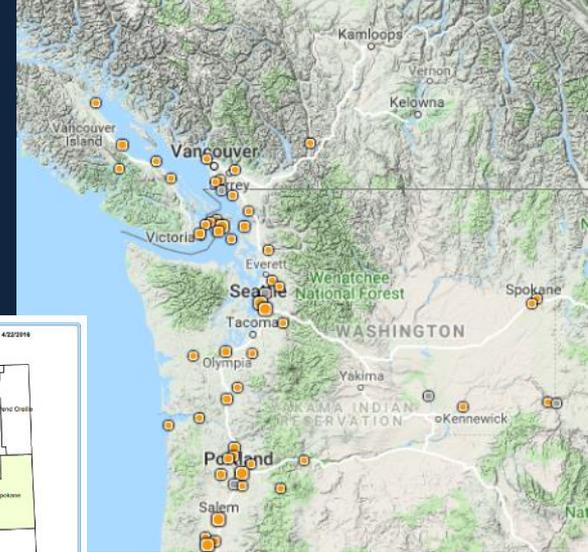
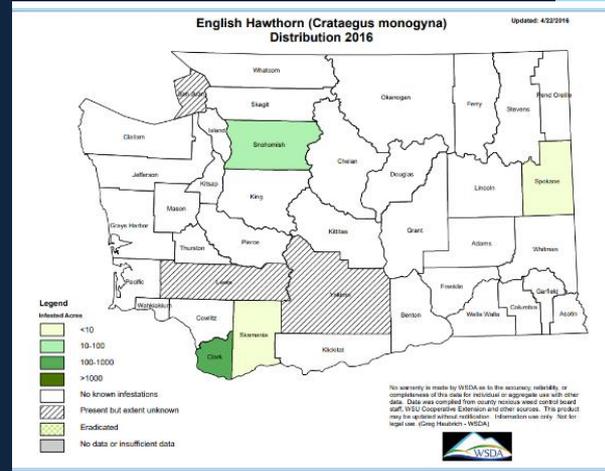
black hawthorn, Douglas' hawthorn, *Crataegus douglasii*

- Native
- Deciduous tree
- Weakly lobed leaves
- Flowers with 10 stamens and 5 styles
- Fruit blackish



English hawthorn, *Crataegus monogyna*

- Full sun, shade tolerant
- Lowland areas, many soil types
- Disturbed areas, forest and woodland understories, riparian areas, grasslands, pastures
- Forms thickets
- Hybridization with *C. douglasii*
- Problem in agricultural areas in San Juan Islands
- Invading oak woodlands
- Most common western WA
 - a collection from Clallam County on Tivoli Island (Lake Ozette) in 1951



English hawthorn, *Crataegus monogyna*



San Juan County Noxious Weed Control Board

- Watch out for thorns
- Monitor for seedlings
- Dig out small plants include the crown and upper part of roots
- Cut back plants to ground
 - Avoid when it is covered in ripe fruit
 - Remove cut material
 - Cut stump treatment with glyphosate or triclopyr

Shiny geranium, *Geranium lucidum*



- Class B noxious weed
- Annual
- Stems can reach height of ~1.6 ft.
- Stems typically bright red and are hairless
- Leaves lobed and shiny
 - Divided into 5-7 sections, each of which is separated into three lobes
 - Top surface sparingly covered with long, stiff hairs

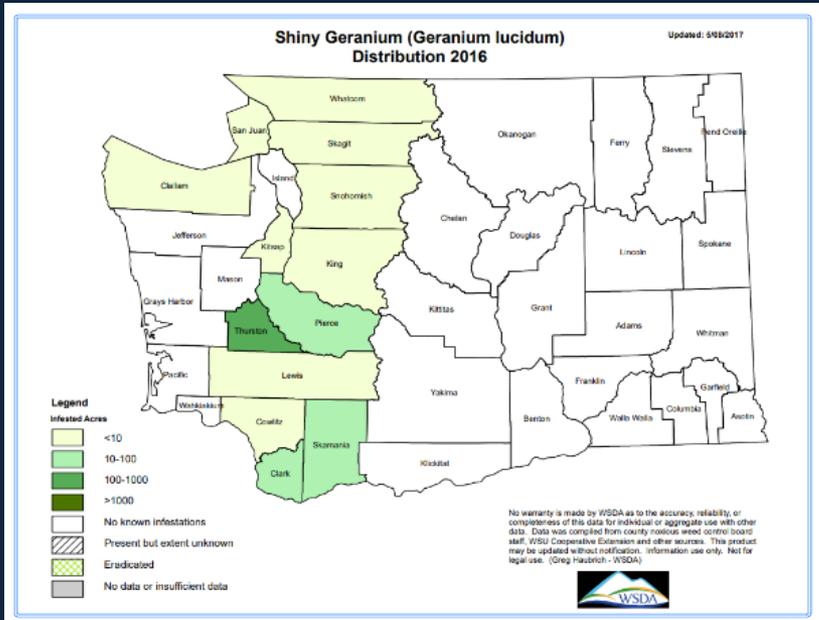


Shiny geranium flowers



- 5 pink petals
- 5 green sepals
 - Green, hairless
 - Strongly keeled
 - Transversely ridged
- Seeds can be forcefully propelled to help population spread

Shiny geranium



- Habitats include well-shaded woodlands, openings, roadsides; also grows in full to partial sun

Control:

- Clean equipment
- Heavy mulch layer, hand-pulling
- Herbicide prior to blooming
 - Glyphosate
 - Triclopyr



Thurston County NWCB

Shiny and dovefoot geraniums

Shiny



Prominent veins

dovefoot

Magenta, hairless stems + shinier leaves

Green, fuzzy stems, leaves soft and fuzzy on both sides

Geranium comparisons



keels

shiny

hairless

Herb-Robert

ridges

Burgundy, no keels or ridges, hairy



dovefoot

No keels, smooth, fuzzy

Fuzzy flower stalks

Dovefoot geranium



Herb robert



Shiny geranium

Garlic mustard, *Alliaria petiolata*

- Class A noxious weed
- Native to Europe, Asia and N. Africa
- Biennial to short-lived perennial
- Grows up to 3 feet
- Garlic scented
- 1st year: rosettes—kidney shaped leaves
- 2nd year: Flowering stems—triangular to heart-shaped coarsely wavy toothed



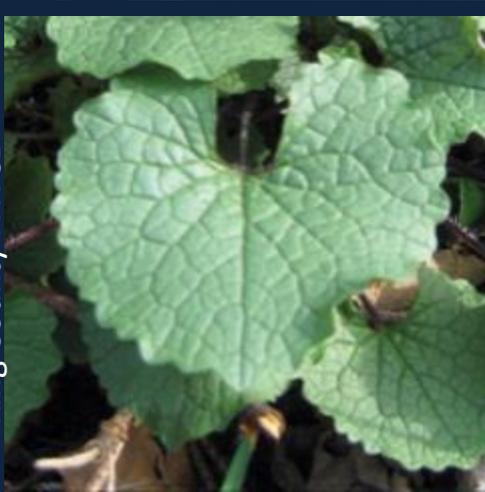
Garlic mustard

Basal leaves



WSNWCB

King County NWCB



WSNWCB

Stem leaves



King County NWCB

Garlic mustard

- Flowers have 4 white petals and 6 stamens
- Seed pods (siliques) long and slender, curving upward, up to 2.4 inches long
- Self-fertile and has a high seed production rate

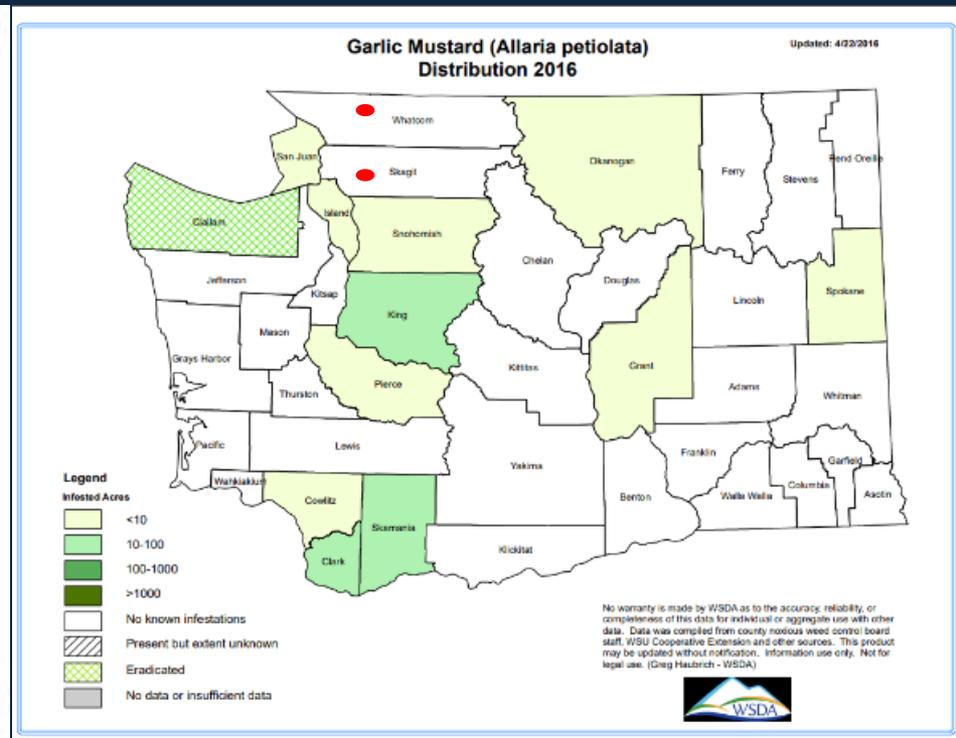


Garlic mustard

- Spread by seed
 - Plants can produce up to 1,000 seed (sometimes more)
 - Animals, people, equipment, soil movement
- Habitats include: forest understory, riparian areas, flood plains, trails, railways
- Fast, aggressive spreader
- Early growth, outcompetes native plants for resources
- Allelopathic



Garlic mustard spread

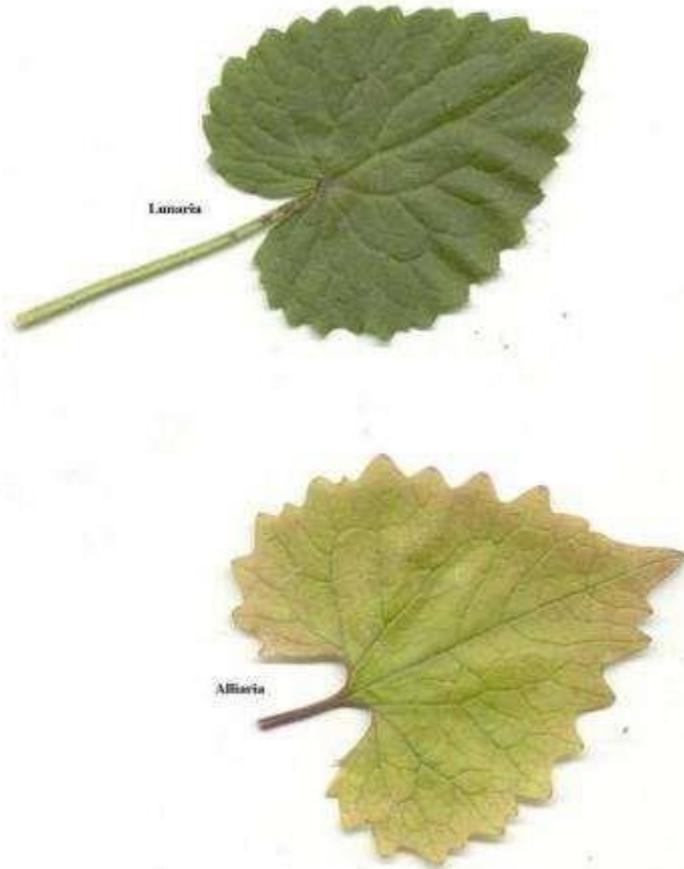


Garlic mustard

- Control:
- Pull plants in early spring
- Smother: wood chip mulch
- Herbicide use may be necessary for large infestations
 - Glyphosate
 - Triclopyr
- Monitor sites for at least 10 years



Garlic Mustard Comparison: Money plant, Honesty, *Lunaria annua*



Flower and Fruit Comparison

Garlic mustard



Image © 2007, G. D. Carr



UGA1378076



Chris Evans, River to River CWMA, bugwood.org

Money plant, honesty



Richard Old, www.xidservices.com



<http://www.mossplant.com/relays/lyonachina>



Christian Fischer

Piggy-back plant, *Tolmiea menziesii*



Honesty, *Lunaria annua*



Fringe cup, *Tellima grandiflora*



Piggy-back plant, *Tolmiea menziesii*



Honesty, *Lunaria annua*



Fringe cup, *Tellima grandiflora*



Garlic mustard



Fringe cup



© Rod Gilbert

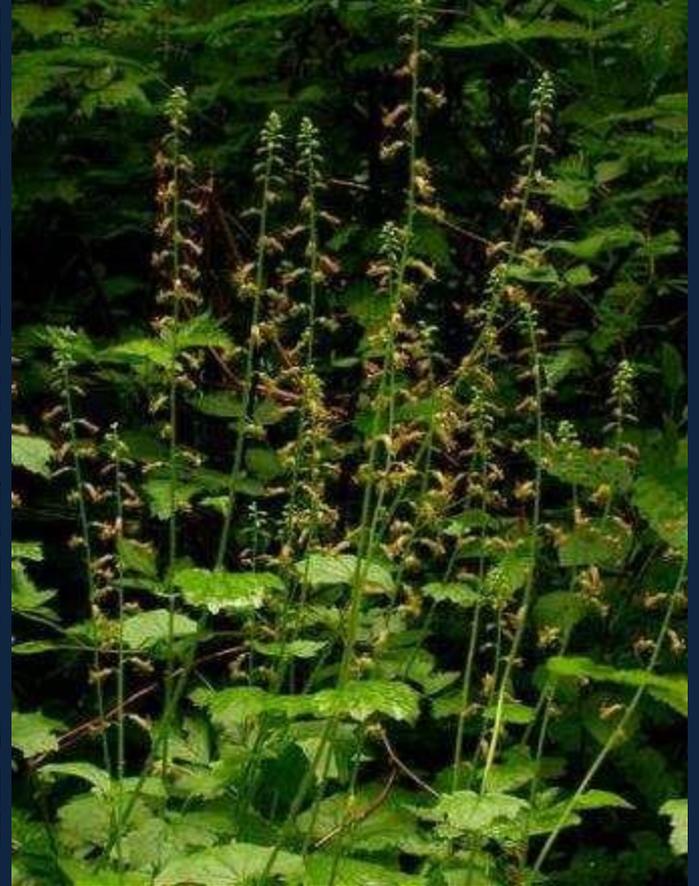
Piggy-back plant



© 2004, Ben Legler



UGA1378076



© 2004, Ben Legler

Garlic mustard and common nipplewort (*Lapsana communis*)



2006, G. D. Carr

2004, Ben Legler

Russian olive, *Elaeagnus angustifolia* L.

- Class C (2014)
- parts of Asia and Europe
- Deciduous multi-stem shrub or tree, up to 7 m
- Stems may have sharp thorns
- Alternately arranged, narrow leaves, silvery



David J. Moorhead, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org



2008, G. D. Carr



Ben Legler, 2005



Joseph Berger, Bugwood.org

Russian olive, *Elaeagnus angustifolia*

- Fragrant yellow flowers form olive-like fruit
- Plants primarily reproduce from seed
- Spreads along waterways and has naturalized along many of our major rivers in the interior western U.S.
- Crowds out important native riparian plant species and communities that provide wildlife habitat
- Nutrient inputs



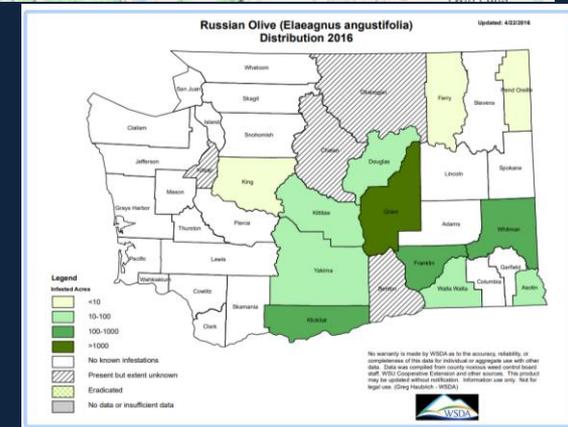
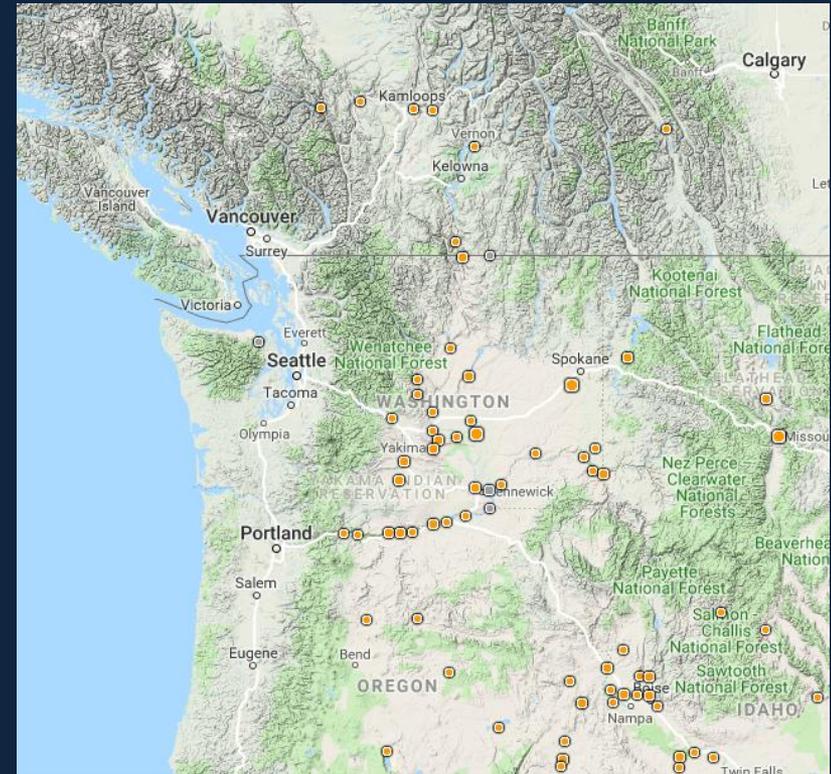
John M. Randall, The Nature Conservancy, Bugwood.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

Russian olive, *Elaeagnus angustifolia*

- Primarily found in eastern Washington
- Some ornamental plantings in western Washington
 - West side of Jefferson County (Bogachiel River)
- Spreading along irrigation waterways, right-of-ways and around lakes such as in Grant County



Control

- Watch out for thorns!
- Seedlings and small plants can be dug out
- Cutting alone will not kill the plant
- Herbicide: cut stump method (best in late summer, early fall), foliar applications
 - Triclopyr—foliar during spring to late summer; cut stump
 - Glyphosate, fully leafed out; cut stump, frill best in late summer, early fall or dormant
 - Imazapyr, foliar, fully leafed out
 - And more



National Park Service

Monitor List Addition: Empress tree, princess tree *Paulownia tomentosa*



- Native to China
- Proposed as addition to the 2018 noxious weed list
- Not moved forward to public hearing
- NWC voted to add to monitor list



James H. Miller, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

Empress tree, Princess tree

- Deciduous, 30-60 ft tall
- Large, fragrant blossoms are borne in upright clusters 6 to 12 inches long at the ends of branches. Corolla pale violet with yellow stripes inside.
- Leaves opposite and broadly ovate, cordate. Leaves of adult trees are 6-16 inches long,
 - leaves of stump sprouts 2x
- Capsule ovoid, densely viscid-glandular hairy; seeds 2.5-4 mm including wing, contain as many as 2,000 tiny winged seeds



James H. Miller, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org



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Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Forestry, Bugwood.org

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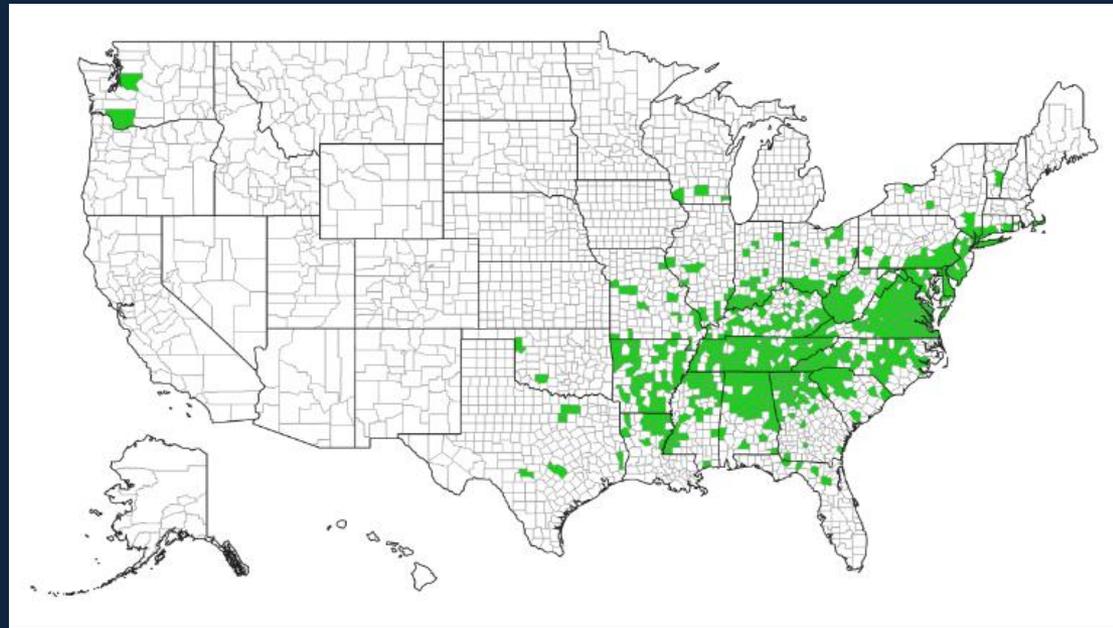


g. oripoom@gn

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Princess tree

- Widely cultivated ornamentally
- Connecticut (banned); Wisconsin (prohibited)
- Oregon: Yamhill County (McMinnville) 2007; Multnomah County (Troutdale) 1992
- Washington: Skamania County Hwy 14, 2005; King County: Seattle (2007), Green River (2015)
- Found growing on managed state timberlands within the Right of Way, Jefferson County remote area



Map: EDDMapS, 2017



CPNWH 2017

- One tree is capable of producing twenty million seeds that are easily transported in water or wind
- Seedlings grow quickly and flower in 8-10 years
- Plants can also sprout from adventitious buds on stems and roots (suckering)
- Eastern U.S: often found on roadsides, stream banks, and disturbed habitats, including fire sites, forests defoliated by pests, and landslides.
- NWC Recommendation: Add to monitor list to collect more information
 - Growing outside of ornamental plantings



1 mm

Remember . . .

- Keep an eye out for noxious weeds
 - new infestations
- Ask for help identifying unknown plants
- Talk to your county weed board
- Prevent spreading noxious weeds and other invasive plants



Thank you!

Contact:

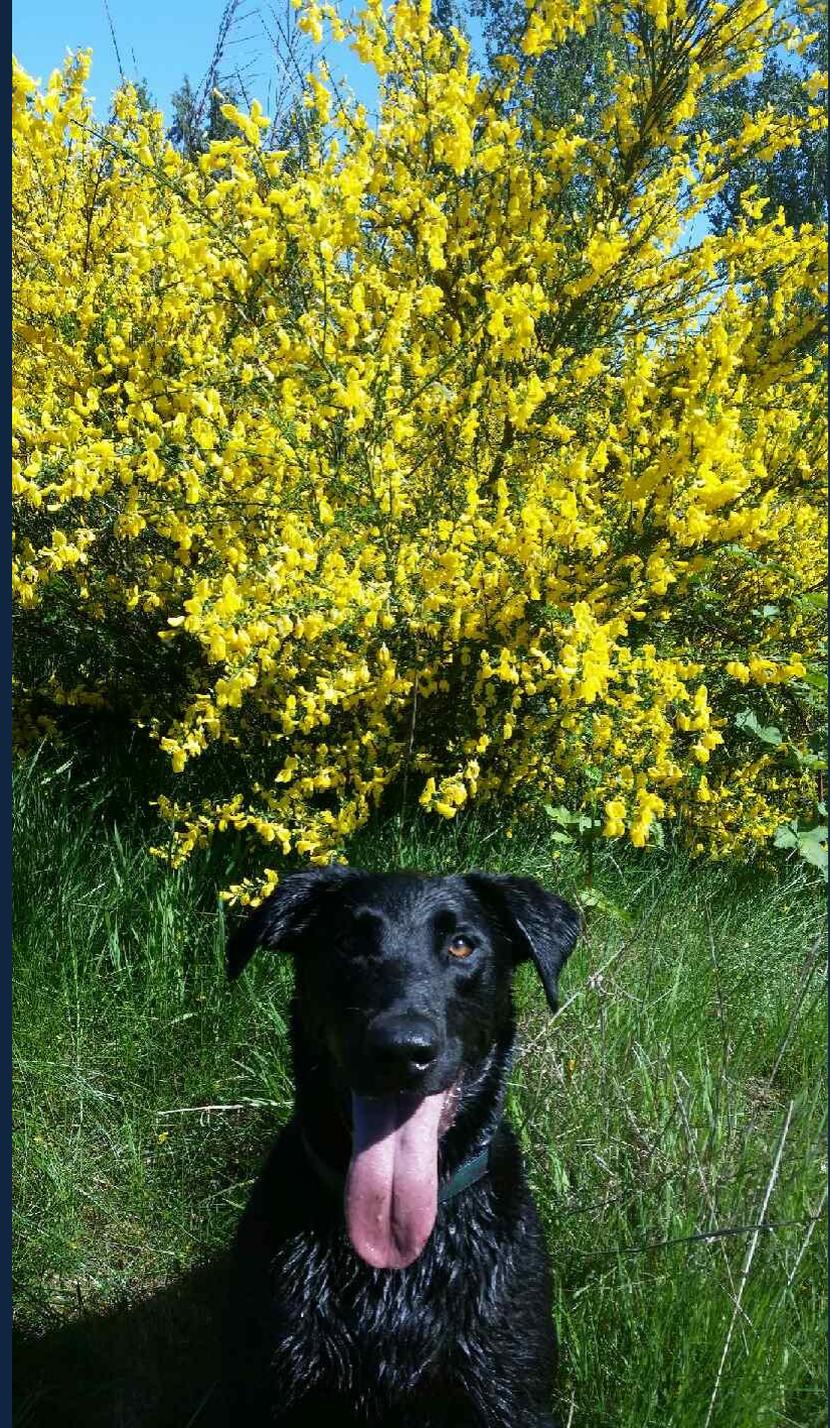
Wendy DesCamp

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Website

<http://www.nwcb.wa.gov>



Spurge laurel, *Daphne laureola*

- Class B noxious weed
- Europe and Northern Africa
- Evergreen shrub up to 5 ft.
- Dark green leaves clustered at branch tips



Image © 2005, Ben Legler

Image © 2005, Ben Legler

Spurge laurel

- Small yellow-green flowers early spring
- Bluish-black berry-like fruit, one-seeded
- Reproduces both by seed and vegetatively from lateral roots
- Birds aid in seed dispersal



Image © 2003, Ben Legler



Winn County NWCB



©JMM



Spurge laurel

- Invades roadsides, parks and wooded areas
- Replaces native understory plants in forested areas
- All parts of the plant are poisonous to humans and other mammals
- Sap can cause severe skin and eye irritation.



Thurston County NWCB



© Parks Canada

Spurge laurel

- Wear gloves and protective clothing
- Hand pull small plants (moist soil)
- Note: cut plants can resprout
- Carefully clip and bag stems with fruits prior to removal
- Herbicide: triclopyr
 - Treat prior to seed production

