



Hoary cress

Life cycle: Noxious statewide. Creeping perennial.

Leaves: Lower leaves spatulate, tapered, slender base. Upper leaves clasp around stem. Wavy, indented leaf margins.

Stems: 1 to 2 feet tall, branched toward top. Fine, whitish hairs.

Flowers: Small, white, four-petaled, borne in flat-topped clusters.

Roots: 10 to 15 feet deep. Fine, branching, penetrating.

Weed Species: state noxious weed

Comments: Persistent and difficult to control. Requires early spring treatment.



Canada thistle

Life cycle: Noxious statewide. Creeping perennial.

Leaves: Smooth, medium green, spine-tipped, crinkled margin. Smaller than biennial thistle.

Stems: 2 to 5 feet tall, grooved, branching at top.

Flowers: Numerous flowers on branched heads. About $\frac{3}{4}$ inch. Usually lavender, may be pink or white. Separate male and female flowers.

Roots: 10 to 15 feet deep.

Weed Species: state noxious weed

Comments: Capable of rapid spread. Seed matures 7 to 10 days after first flower color.



Leafy spurge

Life cycle: Noxious statewide. Creeping perennial.

Leaves: Alternate, long, narrow, drooping, dark green.

Stems: 2 to 3 feet tall. Plant contains milky sap.

Flowers: Small green flowers surrounded by yellow-green bracts. Seed explodes from a three-celled capsule.

Roots: Dark brown with pink buds. May reach 20 feet deep.

Weed Species: state noxious weed

Comments: Difficult to control.



Salt cedar

Life cycle: Noxious statewide. Perennial shrub or tree.

Leaves: Alternate, cedar-like on slender, branched green stems.

Stems: Smooth, woody, dark brown to reddish-brown.

Flowers: White to deep pink; 5 petaled; formed in finger-like clusters.

Roots: Deep, extensive taproot.

Weed Species: state noxious weed

Comments: Plants may use 200 gallons of water each day. Very invasive.



Perennial sowthistle

Life cycle: Perennial

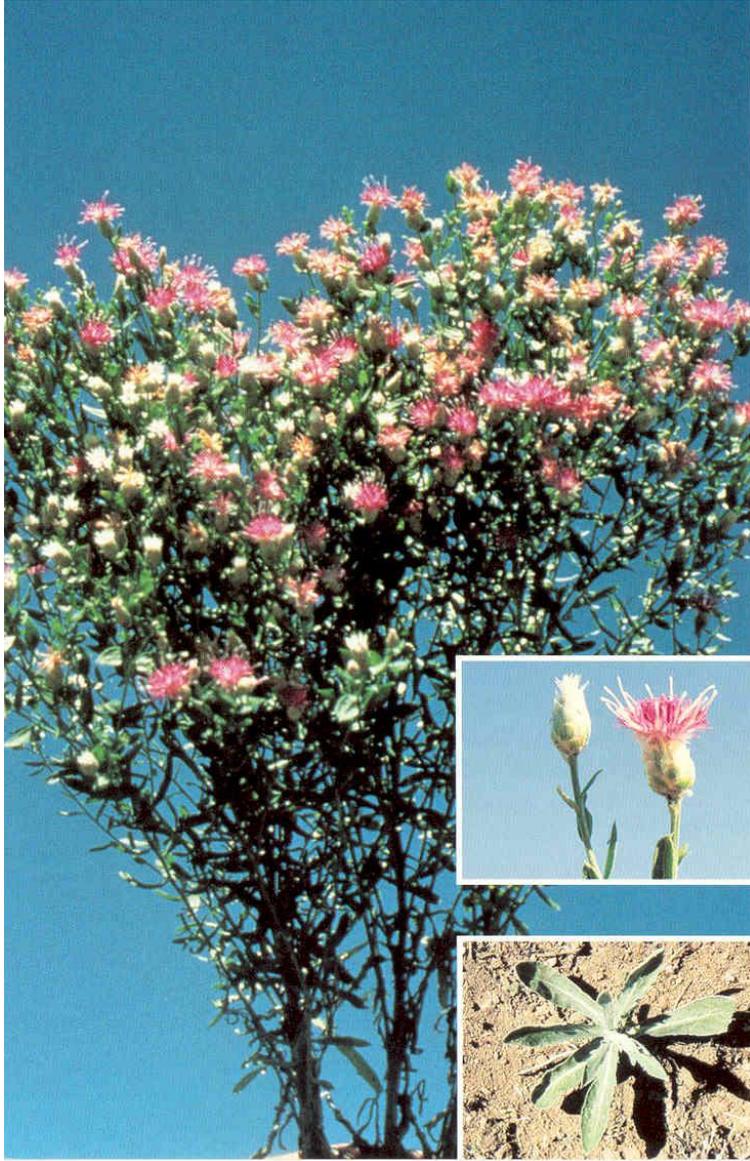
Leaves: Deep notched, sometimes almost whole with slightly prickly edges

Stems: Plant starts as a rosette, then bolts soon before flowering

Flowers: Bright yellow color, similar to dandelion. Seeds spread by wind in a similar manner as dandelion.

Roots: Horizontal creeping roots

Comments: Statewide noxious weed. Can be difficult to control once established due to extensive system of creeping roots. Seeds may spread from ditches and germinate in lawns, gardens, or landscapes.



RUSSIAN KNAPWEED

Life cycle: Noxious statewide. Creeping perennial.

Leaves: Grayish, knaplike hairs, lower leaves deeply indented, upper leaves short.

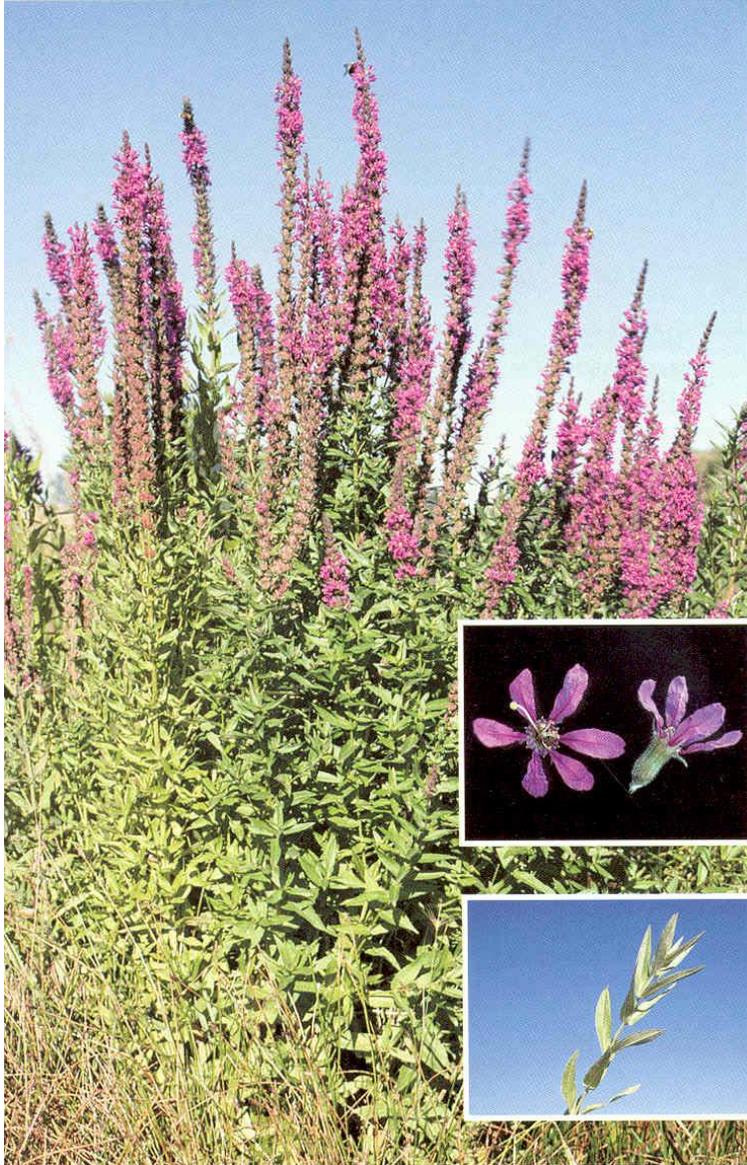
Stems: 2 to 3 feet tall. Very hairy, tough, branched.

Flowers: Small clusters on branched tips, white to light rose.

Roots: Deep, dark brown-black, scaly.

Weed Species: state noxious weed

Comments: Scattered, small infestations. Persistent.



PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE

Life cycle: Noxious statewide. Creeping perennial.

Leaves: Opposite, linear, smooth margins, no petiole.

Stems: 4 to 8 feet tall. Stiff, woody with four to six sides. Older plants are heavily branched.

Flowers: Purple-magenta, five- to six-petaled. Arranged in long spikes.

Roots: Very heavy root, new branches from base.

Weed Species: state noxious weed

Comments: Seed develops in floating capsules.