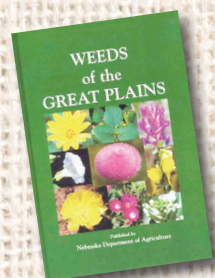


Noxious Weeds of Nebraska

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or PO Box 94756, Lincoln, NE 68509. (\$25)

According to the Nebraska Noxious Weed
Control Act, it is the duty of each person who
owns or controls land in the
State of Nebraska to effectively control
noxious weeds on such land.

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Purple loosestrife — John Byrd MSU 1391156; Norman Rees 0021092
Sericea lespedeza — flower James Miller, USDA FS 0016189; Chris Evans UI 1268008
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Canada thistle — Eric Coombs OR Dept. Ag. 5436183; Cris Burks
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Sericea lespedeza — Chris Evans 1268008; James Miller USDA FS 0016189
Purple loosestrife — John D Byrd, MSU 1391156; Norman Rees USDA ARS 0021092



Noxious Weeds of Nebraska

"To encourage and develop
better weed control practices."

NWCA NEBRASKA WEED CONTROL ASSOCIATION



NEBRASKA NOXIOUS WEEDS

Canada Thistle

Cirsium arvense (L.) Scop.

Life Span: Perennial, reproduces by roots, rhizomes and seed.
Stems: 2-4 feet; hollow; erect; branched above; no leafy wings or spiny margins on upper stems below flowers.

Leaves: Moderate to coarsely lobed, usually wavy with spiny margins. Upper side light to dark green, shiny, hairy to hairless.
Inflorescence: Small 1/2 to 3/4 inch diameter, rose-purple, sometimes white color, male/female flower on separate plants. Flowers June to August.

Roots: Rhizomes, fleshy, extensive, creeping.



Plumeless Thistle

Cardus acanthoides L.

Life Span: Biennial or occasionally an annual. Rosette forms in first year. Reproduces only by seed.

Stems: 1-4 feet tall, leafy to the base of flower heads.

Leaves: Dark green with light midrib. Leaf surface sparsely hairy on top and hairy beneath. Leaves deeply lobed, with narrow spiny margins.

Inflorescence: Solitary in clusters of 2-4, blooms are 1/2 -1 inch in diameter, erect, and usually not drooping. Flowers June to August.

Roots: Stout, fleshy, taproot.



Musk Thistle

Cardus nutans L.

Life Span: Biennial or occasionally an annual, rosette forms first year. Reproduces only by seed.

Stems: 1-6 feet tall; main stem and major branches are hairless.

The stem bearing flower head is covered with fine gray hair with the first few inches below the flower head having no leaves attached.

Leaves: Dark green, prominent light green midrib, usually smooth or hairless on both sides. Lobed, with spiny margins up to 10 inches in length.

Inflorescence: Large, solitary 1-2 1/2 inches in diameter, usually nodding slightly. Deep rose to purple color. Average plant produces 5,000 to 10,000 seeds; some up to 20,000 seeds. Flowers May to August.

Roots: Stout, fleshy, taproot.



Purple Loosestrife

Lythrum salicaria L.

Life Span: Perennial forb, reproduces by seeds and rhizomes

Stems: 1-8 feet tall; erect 4-angled; hairless to pubescent; not highly branched, usually from a woody base.

Leaves: Opposite or in whorls; blades simple, tip sharply pointed; base rounded or heart-shaped; 1-4 inches long.

Inflorescence: Multiple on spike; Rose-purple corolla, 5-7 crinkled petals on each flower. Flowers July to September.

Roots: Taproot and short rhizomes.



NEBRASKA NOXIOUS WEEDS

Spotted Knapweed

Centaurea maculosa auct. non Lam.

Life Span: Biennial or short-lived perennial. Rosette forms during first year. Reproduces by seed.

Stems: Slender erect with numerous wiry branches 1-3 feet tall. Roughly hairy

Leaves: Alternate; ¼ - 1 inch long; deeply divided into narrow segments and covered with short hairs.

Inflorescence: Numerous blossoms, ¾ inch in diameter, composed of pink to purple disk flowers. Each head surrounded by leaf-like bract with dark tips and a fringe of bristly hairs. Flowers June to October

Roots: Stout taproot.



Diffuse Knapweed

Centaurea diffusa Lam.

Life Span: Biennial or short-lived perennial. Rosette forms first year. Reproduces by seed.

Stems: Erect, much branched with rough pubescence. 1-2 ½ feet tall. Often branched near or directly above the base.

Leaves: Alternate, deeply divided, ½ - 1 inch with short or no leaf stalk. Gray-green in color and covered with fine hair.

Inflorescence: Numerous solitary heads clustered at end of branches, approximately ¾ inch in diameter. Spine on tip of bract. White, pink or lavender disk flowers July to September.

Roots: Stout taproot.



Saltcedar

Tamarix ramosissima Ledeb.

Life Span: Perennial shrub or small tree, Reproduces by seeds, root sprouts, or buried stems.

Stems: 3 to 20 feet tall; upright or spreading, forming thickets; bark smooth on young plants, becoming rigid and furrowed with age.

Leaves: Alternate, bluish-green to grayish-green; ½ to 1 ½ inches long, tips pointed; margins membranaceous.

Inflorescence: Panicles have many, small white to deep pink flowers, April – September.

Roots: Deep, extensive, taproot



Phragmites

Phragmites australis (Cav.) Trin. Ex Steud

Life Span: Perennial grass, reproduces by rhizomes, stolons, seeds.

Stems: 3-20 feet tall

Sheath: Open, smooth margins with fine hairs. Blades flat, tapering to long tips, margins serrate, without hair. Lower surface without hair or sparsely hairy.

Inflorescence: Panicle, plume-like branches, branches and top nodding at maturity, densely flowered, tawny to purplish.

Roots: Rhizomes, and stolons.



Giant Knotweed

Polygonum sachalinense F.

Life Span: Herbaceous perennial, reproduces by rhizomes or root segments.

Stems: 6 to 17 feet tall, smooth, hollow and light green, resembling canes of bamboo.

Leaves: 6 to 16 inches long, heart shaped base. Long, thin and wavy hairs on the underside of the leaf.

Inflorescence: Small, Creamy white to greenish white, in short branched clusters. Seeds are 3 sided, shiny and black.

Roots: Roots and rhizomes, spread to 10 feet underground. Root segments can start new plants.



Japanese Knotweed

Polygonum cuspidatum

Life Span: Shrublike herbaceous perennial, reproduces by rhizomes or root segments.

Stems: Up to 10 feet tall. Stems are hollow, smooth, stout and swollen at the joints.

Leaves: Alternate up to 6 inches long and 3-4 inches wide, triangular or heart shaped, pointed at tip.

Inflorescence: Greenish-white flowers in showy plume-like branched clusters. Blooms August – September.

Roots: Roots as long as 30 feet, with rhizomes. Root segments, with a viable nodal bud will start regrowth.



Sericea Lespedeza

Lespedeza cuneata

Life Span: Perennial forb, reproduces by seeds.

Stems: Erect stems up to 5 feet tall, small hairs laying flat along the ridges on the stem.

Leaves: With three leaflets, are 1- 1 ½ inches long, ¼ - ½ inch wide. The leaves on lower portion of the stem are longer. Leaves are flattened on the outer end with small flat hairs on the lower surface.

Inflorescence: Yellow flowers, possibly tinged with purple. Blooms July to October.

Roots: Taproot.



Leafy Spurge

Euphorbia esula L.

Life Span: Perennial. Reproduces by seed and extensive root system with numerous buds.

Stems: 1-3 feet tall; thickly clustered; erect; branched at the top; milky white sap inside.

Leaves: Long and narrow; ¼ inch wide, 1-4 inches long.

Inflorescence: Very small, surrounded by showy yellow-green heart-shaped bracts.

Roots: Deep; spreading; brown with numerous pink buds which may produce new growth.

