

FORB SEEDLING IDENTIFICATION GUIDE FOR THE INLAND NORTHWEST

NATIVE, INTRODUCED, INVASIVE AND NOXIOUS SPECIES

NRCS

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Forb Seedling Identification Guide for the Inland Northwest

Native, Introduced, Invasive and Noxious Species

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INTRODUCTION

Evaluation of new conservation plantings can be very challenging, particularly when unfamiliar species are planted, and when weeds are present. This guide was created to enable land managers to distinguish preferred seedlings from weed seedlings, and determine the success of a planting at an early stage. Species described in this guide are forbs planted in conservation plantings and common weeds in the Inland Northwest region, which is comprised of eastern Washington, northeastern Oregon, and northern Idaho. Native species often mistaken as weeds are also included. The guide provides photos of the desired forbs and weeds at multiple stages, including the seedling and the mature stage, and other photos to demonstrate the species' defining characteristics. Information is provided regarding the plant's native or invasive status, priority for control, and look-alike species.

It was not possible to obtain seedling photos of all species. If a seedling photo is missing in this guide, the appearance of the species' mature leaves or the seedling photo of a related species can be used to help identity the seedling.

Grasses were not included in this guide due to the difficulty of identifying them in early stages. Weedy annual grasses such as cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*) and ventenata (*Ventenata dubia*) can be problematic in new plantings and should be controlled prior to seeding.

ORGANIZATION OF THIS GUIDE

Plants in this guide are categorized by plant family, and listed alphabetically by genus and species within each plant family.

Taxonomists have recently proposed changes to the organization of plant families; however these changes have not yet been adopted by several local herbariums or the USDA PLANTS Database. All plant family, genus and species names appear in this guide as they appeared in the USDA PLANTS Database at the time of publishing.

TERMS & DEFINITIONS

In addition to plant family, genus and species, the following categories are provided for each entry:

PLANTS Symbol

This short-hand code is used by the USDA PLANTS Database. It consists of the first two letters of the plant's genus name and the first two letters of the plant's species name. A number is added if there is more than one species with the same four letters. If the plant is a subspecies, the first letter of the subspecies name is added. The PLANTS symbol can be used when taking notes in the field.

Common Name

The common name provided is the name listed in the USDA PLANTS Database, or the most common name in our region.

Life Form

The life form describes the duration of the plant and its growth habit. The following terms are used to describe life form.

Duration

The duration of many plants may depend on the environmental and site conditions. Multiple durations may be listed.

- Annual: The plant emerges in the spring and completes its growth cycle within one growing season.
- Winter annual: The plant emerges in the fall, remains in a vegetative state throughout the winter, and completes its growth cycle within one growing season.
- Biennial: The plant produces only vegetative growth during the first year, and completes its reproductive cycle in the second year.
- Perennial: The plant regrows for multiple years.
- Short-lived perennial: The plant regrows for a short time period, typically less than 5 years.

Growth Habit

If no growth habit is listed for the plant, it is a forb. A few subshrubs and vines are also included in this guide.

- Forb: The plant produces only herbaceous growth, and no woody or secondary tissue. If perennial, the plant regrows from the crown every year.
- Subshrub: The plant is perennial, has woody branches, and can be up to 3 feet tall.
- Vine: The plant is twining or climbing, has relatively long stems, and can be woody or herbaceous.

Description

A brief description is provided for each plant that includes leaf, stem and growth characteristics, flower shape and color, and average plant height. Unique characteristics used to determine the identity of the plant are also provided.

Habitat

This section describes the plant's range of adaptation.

Status

A plant may have more than one status listed, in particular if there are both locally native and introduced genotypes.

- Native: The plant is indigenous to our region. If native to another region of the U.S., the region is specified.
- Ruderal native: The plant is indigenous to our region and is an early seral species. It may dominate an area after a disturbance, and appear to be weedy, but is not competitive over the long term and will diminish as slower-growing species begin to dominate.
- Introduced: The plant is not native, but has been naturalized in the U.S. It is considered benign (not likely to become invasive) and is often planted in CRP mixes.

- Invasive: The plant is not native, and has the ability to compete with other plants, potentially dominating an area.
- Noxious: The plant has become problematic in certain areas and is listed on a state's (Washington, Oregon or Idaho's) noxious weed list. The noxious status at the time of publishing and the state(s) in which it is listed are provided.

Priority for Control

This section is included if the plant's status is Invasive or Noxious.

- Low: The plant is not likely to dominate an area, and can generally be ignored. No control is needed.
- Moderate: If the plant occurs in low numbers, it can generally be ignored. However, if it occurs in high numbers or over a large area, preventive measures should be taken. Preventive measures may include hand-pulling, spot-spraying a post-emergent herbicide (if it reproduces vegetatively), and/or application of a pre-emergent herbicide the following year (if it reproduces by seed).
- High: The plant has the potential to dominate an area, and it should be controlled with practices such as hand-pulling, spot-spraying a post-emergent herbicide (if it reproduces vegetatively), and/or application of a pre-emergent herbicide the following year (if it reproduces by seed).

Look-alikes

Plants are listed in this section if they resemble the described plant, either in the seedling or mature stage.

TIPS FOR SEEDLING IDENTIFICATION

Plant identification can be a long and laborious process. Use these tips to speed up the process.

- At the same time the field is planted, plant a handful of the seed mix in a container left outside. You can monitor this container to get a good idea of the seedlings' appearance before evaluating the planting.
- If a drill was used for planting, the desired plants will likely be in rows and the undesired plants will be between the rows. Compare your seeding mix and photos in this guide with the seedlings present in the rows.
- To determine the weed species, look over your notes of weeds that were observed before field operations began.
- If notes were not taken before field operations began, look around the edges of the field for plant carcasses. If you can identify the carcasses, compare seedling photos of these species with the seedlings present.
- Wait until the seedling has at least 3 leaves (not including the cotyledons) before you try to identify it.
- If any questions remain about the identification of the seedlings, monitor them as they mature and compare them with the mature photos in this guide. Also utilize references listed at the end of this guide, contact your local weed experts, or send a scanned sample of the plant to Richard Old, XID Services, at: **rold@pullman.com**.

A *AMARANTHACEAE*



Amaranthus albus Seedling



Mature *Amaranthus albus*

Genus: *Amaranthus*

Species: *albus*

PLANTS Symbol: AMAL

Common Name: tumble pigweed

Life Form: Annual

Description: Leaves are alternate, obovate to elliptic, and taper to a slender petiole. Stems are branched at the base, and plant forms a rounded shape. Grows up to 40 inches tall. Plant is monoecious; female flowers have 4 to 5 distinct, uneven sepals and 3 styles, and male flowers have 4 to 5 short, scale-like sepals and 3 or 4 stamens. Neither flower type has petals. Plant tumbles when dry.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Moderate

Look-alikes: *Amaranthus blitoides* (mat amaranth), *Amaranthus retroflexus* (redroot pigweed)



Amaranthus blitoides Seedling



Mature *Amaranthus blitoides*

Genus: *Amaranthus*

Species: *blitoides*

PLANTS Symbol: AMBL

Common Name: mat amaranth

Life Form: Annual

Description: Leaves are alternate, obovate to elliptic, and taper to a slender petiole. Stems are branched at the base and prostrate. Grows 3 feet wide. Plant is monoecious; female flowers have 4 to 5 distinct, uneven sepals and 3 styles, and male flowers have 4 to 5 short, scale-like, acute sepals and 3 or 4 stamens. Neither flower type has petals.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Moderate

Look-alikes: *Amaranthus albus* (tumble pigweed)

A *AMARANTHACEAE*



Amaranthus retroflexus Seedling



Mature *Amaranthus retroflexus*

Genus: *Amaranthus*

Species: *retroflexus*

PLANTS Symbol: AMRE

Common Name: redroot pigweed

Life Form: Annual

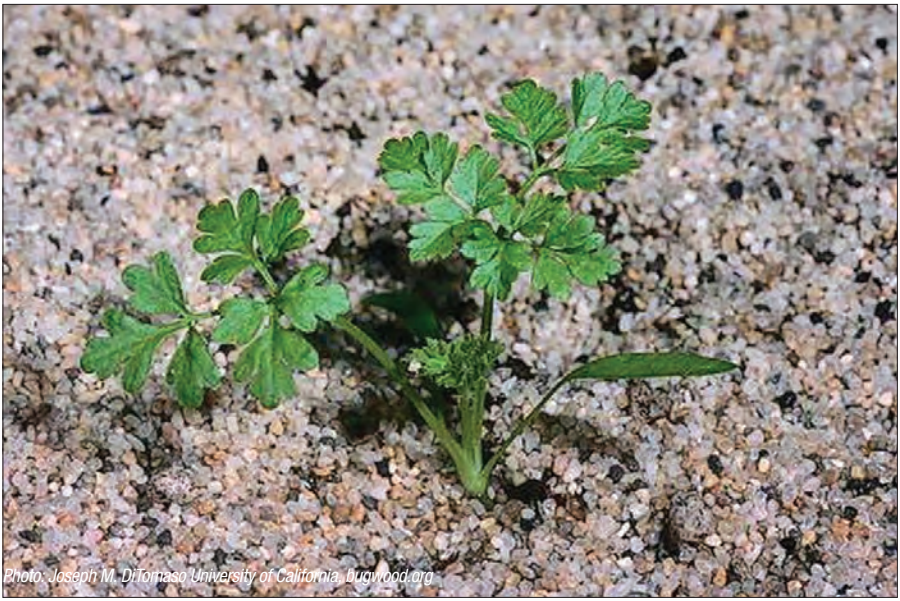
Description: Erect plant with red or red-striped lower stem and a red taproot. Leaves are broad and lance shaped, have long petioles and prominent red veins. The undersides of the leaves are hairy along the veins. Flowers are inconspicuous and greenish-white. Grows 2 to 3 feet tall.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Ruderal native

Priority for Control: Low

Look-alikes: *Amaranthus blitoides* (mat amaranth) *Amaranthus albus* (tumble pigweed)



Anthriscus caucalis Seedling



Mature *Anthriscus caucalis*

Genus: *Anthriscus*

Species: *caucalis*

PLANTS Symbols: ANCA14

Common Name: bur chervil

Life Form: Annual

Description: Leaves are alternate, finely divided with fern-like appearance. Seedling leaves can be hairy. Has white flowers. Grows to 3 feet tall. Hooked spines cover the fruits.

Habitat: Along streambanks, moist or shady areas; moving into open, drier sites

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: *A. sylvestris* (wild chervil), *Conium maculatum* (poison hemlock), *Lomatium dissectum* (fern-leaf biscuitroot)



Anthriscus sylvestris Seedling



Mature *Anthriscus sylvestris*

Genus: *Anthriscus*

Species: *sylvestris*

PLANTS Symbol: ANSY

Common Name: wild chervil

Life Form: Annual or biennial

Description: Leaves are alternate, finely divided with fern-like appearance. Stems are branching, not hairy, and often purple. White flowers. Grows 2 to 5 feet tall. Fruits are smooth.

Habitat: Along streambanks, moist areas

Status: Noxious, Class B Quarantine in WA

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: *A. caucalis* (bur chervil), *Conium maculatum* (poison hemlock), *Lomatium dissectum* (fern-leaf biscuitroot)



Conium maculatum Seedling



Mature *Conium maculatum*

Genus: *Conium*

Species: *maculatum*

PLANTS Symbol: COMA2

Common Name: poison hemlock

Life Form: Biennial

Description: Basal rosette in its first year. Leaves are alternate, finely divided with fern-like appearance. The lower leaves clasp the stem. Stems are covered with purple spots or stripes, are stout, hollow, and extensively branched. White flowers. Grows 6 to 9 feet tall. **The sap of this plant is poisonous. Do not consume, and do not hand pull without adequate skin protection.**

Habitat: Along streambanks, moist areas

Status: Noxious; Containment in ID, Class C in WA, Class B Quarantine in OR

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: *Anthriscus caucalis* (bur chervil), *A. sylvestris* (wild chervil), *Lomatium dissectum* (fern-leaf biscuitroot)



Lomatium dissectum Seedling



Mature *Lomatium dissectum*

Genus: *Lomatium*

Species: *dissectum*

PLANTS Symbol: LODI

Common Name: fern-leaf biscuitroot

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are pinnately divided three times into narrow fern-like segments. Leaves are basal and on the stem. Stems grow from a woody taproot and are 0.5 to 3 feet tall. Inflorescences are compound umbels with brownish-purple or yellow flowers. Slow to establish.

Habitat: Dry, exposed slopes, in meadow steppe, deep soil on the shrub-steppe, and sometimes in open mountain meadows.

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Anthriscus caucalis* (bur chervil), *A. sylvestris* (wild chervil), and *Conium maculatum* (poison hemlock), but these grow in wetter habitats.



Lomatium grayi Seedling



Mature *Lomatium grayi*

Genus: *Lomatium*

Species: *grayi*

PLANTS Symbol: LOGR

Common Name: Gray's biscuitroot

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves arise from the base and are pinnately divided three times into numerous narrow fern-like segments. Stems grow from a woody taproot and are 0.5 to 1.5 feet tall. Inflorescences are compound umbels with yellow flowers. Previous years' growth often accumulates at the base, and plants have strong odor when crushed.

Habitat: Vernally moist rocky draws and outcrops at low to mid elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Anthriscus sylvestris* (wild chervil), *Conium maculatum* (poison hemlock), *Lomatium dissectum* (fern-leaf biscuitroot)



Lomatium triternatum Seedling



Mature *Lomatium triternatum*

Genus: *Lomatium*

Species: *triternatum*

PLANTS Symbol: LOTR2

Common Name: nine-leaf biscuitroot

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are finely divided into 9 long, thin segments; are not fern-like. Leaves are basal or on the lower portion of the stem. Stems grow from a taproot, are covered in fine, stiff hairs, and are 1 to 2 feet tall. Inflorescences are compound umbels with yellow flowers.

Habitat: Dry to moist open areas at low to mid elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: In early seedling stage can be mistaken for a grass.


Photo: Pamela Pavek, NRCS


Photo: Theodore Webster ARS, bugwood.org

(l-r) Apocynum androsaemifolium; cannabinum Seedlings


Photo: Richard Old, xidservices.com


Photo: Chris Evans, River to River CWMA, bugwood.org

(top) Mature *Apocynum androsaemifolium,* (bottom) *A. cannabinum*

Genus: *Apocynum*

Species: *androsaemifolium; cannabinum*

PLANTS Symbol: APAN2; APCA

Common Name: spreading dogbane; hemp dogbane

Life Form: Perennial

Description: These plants have fibrous, branching stems that die back every year. Stems are smooth, reddish, and exude a milky substance when broken. Leaves are opposite or whorled, thick and egg-shaped with a sharp point. Spreading dogbane grows 1 to 2.5 feet tall and has small, pink, bell-shaped flowers. Hemp dogbane is typically taller, growing to 6 feet tall, stems are darker red, and flowers are white to greenish-white.

Habitat: *A. androsaemifolium*: exposed mesic areas; *A. cannabium*: wet riparian areas

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Symphoricarpos albus* (snowberry) (not in this guide)



Young *Asclepias speciosa* Plant



Mature *Asclepias speciosa*

Genus: *Asclepias*

Species: *speciosa*

PLANTS Symbol: ASSP

Common Name: showy milkweed

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Plant is rhizomatous and forms colonies. Is grayish-green and has erect stems. Grows 2 to 5 feet tall. Leaves are opposite, large, oval-shaped and thick, and are covered with fine, soft hairs. Stems and leaves exude a milky substance when broken. Flowers are pink and arranged in umbels. Seeds are produced in large pods. Plant is visited by butterflies, bees, wasps, flies, and hummingbirds, and a significant number of beneficial insects.

Habitat: Open, disturbed areas

Status: Native

Look-alikes: None



Achillea millefolium Seedling



Mature *Achillea millefolium*

Genus: *Achillea*

Species: *millefolium*

PLANTS Symbol: ACMI2

Common Name: western yarrow

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Quick to establish. Leaves are pale green, finely divided, soft and feathery. Leaves have a pungent smell when crushed. Stems are erect and grow 1 to 2 feet tall. Has white to pink flowers.

Habitat: Typically open slopes; wide range of adaptability

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Chaenactis douglasii* (Douglas' dustymaiden)



Agoseris grandiflora Seedling



Mature *Agoseris grandiflora*

Genus: *Agoseris*

Species: *grandiflora*

PLANTS Symbol: AGGR

Common Name: bigflower agoseris

Life Form: Short-lived perennial

Description: Quick to establish, has dandelion-like appearance, except has fewer leaves and only one flower head per stalk. Leaves are basal, long and entire or pinnately lobed. Stems on young plants are woolly. Flowers are yellow and turn pink when mature.

Habitat: Dry, open disturbed areas

Status: Ruderal native

Look-alikes: *Taraxacum officinale* (dandelion)



Anthemis cotula Seedling



Mature *Anthemis cotula*

Genus: *Anthemis*

Species: *cotula*

PLANTS Symbol: ANCO2

Common Name: mayweed chamomile

Life Form: Annual

Description: Leaves are 2 to 3 times pinnately divided into narrow segments and smooth. Plant has multiple branches and bushy appearance, grows 0.5 to 2 feet tall. Infloresences have white ray flowers and yellow disk flowers. Has unpleasant odor.

Habitat: Open, disturbed areas; wide range of adaptability

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: *Matricaria discoidea* (pineapple weed), *Tripleurospermum maritimum* (false mayweed)



Mature *Balsamorhiza careyana*



Mature *Balsamorhiza careyana*

Genus: *Balsamorhiza*

Species: *careyana*

PLANTS Symbol: BACA3

Common Name: Carey's balsamroot

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are large, triangular-shaped with smooth margins and long petioles. Leaves are shiny and dark green on both sides, and have a rough texture. Stems have small leaves and several inflorescences with yellow ray and disk flowers.

Habitat: Open, sunny slopes

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Balsamorhiza sagittata* (arrowleaf balsamroot), *Helianthella uniflora* (little sunflower), *Wyethia amplexicaulis* (mule's ears)(not in this guide)



Mature *Balsamorhiza sagittata*



Balsamorhiza sagittata Seedling

Genus: *Balsamorhiza*

Species: *sagittata*

PLANTS Symbol: BASA3

Common Name: arrowleaf balsamroot

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are large, arrow or heart-shaped with smooth margins and long petioles. Leaves are pale green and have a soft, velvety texture on both sides. Stems are leafless and end in solitary inflorescences with yellow ray and disk flowers.

Habitat: Open, sunny slopes

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Balsamorhiza careyana* (Carey's balsamroot), *Helianthella uniflora* (little sunflower), *Wyethia amplexicaulis* (mule's ears) (not in this guide)



Centaurea cyanus Seedling



Mature *Centaurea cyanus*

Genus: *Centaurea*

Species: *cyanus*

PLANTS Symbol: CECY2

Common Name: cornflower

Life Form: Annual or winter annual

Description: Leaves are narrow and linear with smooth margins, however lower leaves can be toothed or lobed. Flowers vary in color on the same plant from white to blue, purple, or pink. Stems are single or branched. Grows to 3 feet tall. Often included in "wildflower" mixes.

Habitat: Open areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: In rosette stage: *Centaurea diffusa* (diffuse knapweed), *C. stoebe* ssp. *micranthos* (spotted knapweed), *C. solstitialis* (yellow starthistle)



Centaurea diffusa Rosette



Mature *Centaurea diffusa*

Genus: *Centaurea*

Species: *diffusa*

PLANTS Symbol: CEDI3

Common Name: diffuse knapweed

Life Form: Annual, biennial or perennial

Description: Early stages or young plants have basal rosette of deeply pinnately lobed leaves. Lower stem leaves are deeply pinnately lobed and deciduous; upper leaves are linear, entire and bract-like. Stems are diffusely branched, grow 1 to 3 feet tall and have a rough texture. Flower heads are numerous and narrow, have spiny yellow bracts and white to rose-purple disk flowers.

Habitat: Dry, disturbed areas

Status: Noxious; Class B Quarantine in WA and OR, Containment in ID

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: In rosette stage, *Centaurea cyanus* (bachelor button), *C. stoebe* ssp. *micranthos* (spotted knapweed), *C. solstitialis* (yellow starthistle), C. virgata (squarrose knapweed) (not in this guide)





(l-r) *Centaurea solstitialis* Seedling and Rosette



Mature *Centaurea solstitialis*

Genus: *Centaurea*

Species: *solstitialis*

PLANTS Symbol: CESO3

Common Name: yellow starthistle

Life Form: Annual, winter annual or biennial

Description: Early stages or young plants have basal rosette of deeply lobed leaves with pointed tips. Stem leaves are alternate, mostly linear or narrowly oblong. Has multiple, rigid, and winged stems covered with fine pubescence. Grows 2 to 3 feet tall. Infloresences are located singly at ends of the branches and have yellow flowers. Flower bracts have ¾ inch long yellow spines.

Habitat: Open, disturbed sunny slopes

Status: Noxious; Class B in WA, Class B Quarantine in OR, Containment in ID

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: In rosette stage, *Centaurea cyanus* (bachelor button), *C. diffusa* (diffuse knapweed), *C. stoebe* ssp. *micranthos* (spotted knapweed)



Centaurea stoebe ssp. *micranthos* Seedling



Mature *Centaurea stoebe* ssp. *micranthos*

Genus: *Centaurea*

Species: *stoebe* ssp. *micranthos*

PLANTS Symbol: CESTM

Common Name: spotted knapweed

Life Form: Biennial or short-lived perennial

Description: First year growth is a rosette with deeply lobed leaves. Mature plant has one or more stems that are branched and grow 1 to 3 feet tall. Stem leaves are alternate and entire to pinnately divided. Inflorescences are solitary at the end of branches and have pink to purple flowers. Bracts under the flowers have a black triangular tip.

Habitat: Open areas

Status: Noxious; Quarantine in WA and OR, Containment in ID

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: In rosette stage, *Centaurea cyanus* (bachelor button), *C. diffusa* (diffuse knapweed), *C. solstitialis* (yellow starthistle)



Chaenactis douglasii Seedling



Chaenactis douglasii Flower

Genus: *Chaenactis*

Species: *douglasii*

PLANTS Symbol: CHDO

Common Name: Douglas' dustymaiden

Life Form: Biennial or perennial

Description: Leaves are olive green, finely dissected and covered with small white hairs that impart a woolly appearance, are progressively smaller up the stem. Stems end in hard receptacles packed with multiple white, cream to pink tubular flowers. Grows 6 to 20 inches tall.

Habitat: Dry, open and rocky areas, sandy and gravelly soil

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Achillea millefolium* (western yarrow)



Chondrilla juncea Seedling



Mature *Chondrilla juncea*

Genus: *Chondrilla*
Species: *juncea*
PLANTS Symbol: CHJU
Common Name: rush skeletonweed
Life Form: Perennial

Description: Basal rosette is similar in appearance to dandelion, with a dense clump of sharply toothed leaves. Positively identified by red, downward-facing hairs on stem that persist to maturity. Several erect, smooth and stiff stems emerge from the base with narrow leaves. Leaves and stems exude milky substance when broken. Yellow inflorescences occur on the branches. Grows 1 to 4 feet tall.

Habitat: Open, disturbed areas with well-drained, light textured soils

Status: Noxious; Class B in Washington, Class B Quarantine in OR, Containment in ID

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: In seedling stage, *Lactuca serriola* (prickly lettuce). In rosette stage, *Agoseris grandiflora* (bigflower agoseris), *Taraxacum officinale* (dandelion) and *Cichorium intybus* (chicory). Mature stage, *Lygodesmia juncea* (rush skeletonplant) (not in this guide).



Mature *Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus*



Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus Seedling

Genus: *Chrysothamnus*

Species: *viscidiflorus*

PLANTS Symbol: CHVI8

Common Name: yellow rabbitbrush

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are narrow, usually twisted, green and smooth, not woolly. Bark is dark brown. Grows 2 to 4 feet tall. Flowers are small and yellow in rounded, flat-topped clusters. Has bright, lime-green appearance.

Habitat: Open and dry rangeland

Status: Ruderal native

Look-alikes: *Ericameria nauseosa* (rubber rabbitbrush)



Cichorium intybus Seedling



Mature *Cichorium intybus*

Genus: *Cichorium*

Species: *intybus*

PLANTS Symbol: CIIN

Common Name: chicory

Life Form: Biennial or perennial

Description: Lower leaves are oblanceolate, pinnate or toothed and have petioles. Upper leaves are reduced, sessile and are entire. Inflorescences are sessile, occur in groups of 1 to 3 in leaf axils of the upper leaves, and have blue flowers. Regrows from deep taproot. Grows 1 to 5 feet tall.

Habitat: Dry or moist areas in pastures and along roads

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Low

Look-alikes: In rosette stage, *Chondrilla juncea* (rush skeletonweed), T*araxacum officinale* (dandelion)



Cirsium arvense Seedling



Mature *Cirsium arvense*

Genus: *Cirsium*

Species: *arvense*

PLANTS Symbol: CIAR4

Common Name: Canada thistle

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are lanceolate to oblong, sessile, alternate and have spiny edges. Underside of leaf is lighter green. Stems are grooved and branch at top. Inflorescences occur in clusters on upper stems and are made up of purple flowers. Flower heads are not spiny. Male and female flowers occur on separate plants. Grows 1 to 4 feet tall. Has extensive creeping roots; forms colonies.

Habitat: Adapted to wide range of habitats

Status: Noxious; Class C in WA, Class B Quarantine in OR, Containment in ID

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: *Cirsium brevifolium* (Palouse thistle), *C. scariosum* (meadow thistle), *C. undulatum* (wavy-leaf thistle), *C. vulgare* (bull thistle)



Cirsium brevifolium Rosette



Mature *Cirsium brevifolium*

Genus: *Cirsium*

Species: *brevifolium*

PLANTS Symbol: CIBR

Common Name: Palouse thistle

Life Form: Short-lived perennial

Description: Leaves are lanceolate, deeply divided with toothed and spiny edges. Underside of leaf is lighter green and wooly. Inflorescences occur at ends of branches and are made up of white flowers. Grows 1 to 4 feet tall.

Habitat: Low elevation grasslands

Status: Native, rare; listed as S2 Imperiled in ID and S3 Vulnerable in WA (NatureServe)

Look-alikes: *Cirsium arvense* (Canada thistle), *C. scariosum* (meadow thistle), *C. undulatum* (wavy-leaf thistle), *C. vulgare* (bull thistle), *Onopordum acanthium* (Scotch thistle)



Cirsium scariosum Rosette



Mature *Cirsium scariosum*

Genus: *Cirsium*

Species: *scariosum*

PLANTS Symbol: CISC2

Common Name: meadow thistle

Life Form: Biennial or perennial

Description: Tap-rooted, often stemless plant with a basal rosette of thick, succulent leaves that are linear, coarsely toothed to lobed with weak spines. Plant has spider-web appearance. Stem, when present, can be up to 3 feet tall. Inflorescences appear to attach at main stem but are actually on short stems at leaf axes. Inflorescences are made up of cream to pink or light purple flowers.

Habitat: Moist meadows in foothills to high elevations in mountains

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Cirsium arvense* (Canada thistle), *C. brevifolium* (Palouse thistle), *Cirsium foliosum* (elk thistle) *C. undulatum* (wavy-leaf thistle), *C. vulgare* (bull thistle), *Onopordum acanthium* (Scotch thistle)



Cirsium undulatum Seedling



Mature *Cirsium undulatum*

Genus: *Cirsium*

Species: *undulatum*

PLANTS Symbol: CIUN

Common Name: wavy-leaf thistle

Life Form: Biennial or short-lived perennial

Description: Grows from single tap root. Leaves are up to 1 foot long, coarsely toothed or pinnately lobed with spiny edges. Stem is 1 to 4 feet tall. Inflorescences occur at end of branches and are made up of Pinkish-purple to cream colored flowers.

Habitat: Dry hillsides and plains at low elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Cirsium arvense* (Canada thistle), *C. brevifolium* (Palouse thistle), *C. scariosum* (meadow thistle), *C. vulgare* (bull thistle), *Onopordum acanthium* (Scotch thistle)



Cirsium vulgare Seedling



Mature *Cirsium vulgare*

Genus: *Cirsium*

Species: *vulgare*

PLANTS Symbol: CIVU

Common Name: bull thistle

Life Form: Biennial

Description: Has short tap root. Leaves form a rosette the first year and a stem is produced the second year. Stem is 1 to 4 feet tall. Leaves are pinnately lobed, hairy and prickly on upper side, woolly underneath. Flowers are dark pink-purple.

Habitat: Low elevations and disturbed areas in the mountains

Status: Noxious; Class C in WA, Class B Quarantine in OR

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: *Cirsium arvense* (Canada thistle), *C. brevifolium* (Palouse thistle), *C. scariosum* (meadow thistle), *C. undulatum* (wavy-leaf thistle), *Onopordum acanthium* (Scotch thistle)



Crepis atribarba Seedling



Mature *Crepis atribarba*

Genus: *Crepis*

Species: *atribarba*

PLANTS Symbol: CRAT

Common Name: slender hawksbeard

Life Form: Perennial

Description: One or two stems grow from a tap root. Basal and lower leaves are deeply pinnately lobed, long and linear. Upper leaves are linear with entire margins. Young plants are covered with fine white wool. Plant exudes milky juice when broken. Numerous bright yellow flowers are in loose clusters. Grows 6 to 28 inches tall.

Habitat: Dry, open areas in foothills to moderate elevations in mountains

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Chondrilla juncea* (rush skeletonweed)



Conyza canadensis Seedling



Mature *Conyza canadensis*

Genus: *Conyza*

Species: *canadensis*

PLANTS Symbol: COCA5

Common Name: Canadian horseweed

Life Form: Annual, winter annual or biennial

Description: Lower leaves are oblanceolate with petioles; upper leaves are linear, sessile and hairy. Stems are smooth, erect, and branched only near the top. Flowers are small and numerous, on an open inflorescence at the end of the stems, with yellow disk flowers and short white ray flowers. Grows 8 to 40 inches tall.

Habitat: Dry or moist disturbed ground

Status: Ruderal native

Look-alikes: None



Mature *Ericameria nauseosa*



Ericameria nauseosa Seedling

Genus: *Ericameria*

Species: *nauseosa*

PLANTS Symbol: ERNA10

Common Name: rubber rabbitbrush

Life Form: Perennial shrub or subshrub

Description: Leaves are narrow and thin, alternate with smooth edges. Leaves and stems are covered with fine, white hairs, giving the plant a soft, sage green appearance. Grows 1 to 8 feet tall. Flowers are yellow in rounded clusters at the end of branches.

Habitat: Cold, dry open areas at wide range of elevation

Status: Ruderal native

Look-alikes: *Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus* (yellow rabbitbrush)



Erigeron filifolius Seedling



Mature *Erigeron filifolius*

Genus: *Erigeron*

Species: *filifolius*

PLANTS Symbol: ERFI2

Common Name: threadleaf fleabane

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are thin and thread-like. Plant has a taproot and a branched, short woody base. Stems are covered densely with hairs that are aligned in one direction. Inflorescences are single or multiple at the end of branches, with yellow disc and blue, pink or white ray flowers. Grows 4 to 10 inches tall.

Habitat: Dry, open areas

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Erigeron linearis* (desert yellow fleabane), *Erigeron pumulis* (shaggy daisy)



Erigeron linearis Seedling



Mature *Erigeron linearis*

Genus: *Erigeron*

Species: *linearis*

PLANTS Symbol: ERLI

Common Name: desert yellow fleabane

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are thin and linear. Plant has a taproot and a stout woody base. Stems are covered densely with hairs that are aligned in one direction. Inflorescences are single or a multiple at the end of branches, with yellow disc and yellow ray flowers.
Grows 4 to 10 inches tall.

Habitat: Dry, open areas

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Erigeron filifolius* (threadleaf fleabane), *Erigeron pumulis* (shaggy daisy)



Erigeron pumulis Seedling



Mature *Erigeron pumulis*

Genus: *Erigeron*

Species: *pumulis*

PLANTS Symbol: ERPU2

Common Name: shaggy fleabane

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are oblanceolate to linear-oblanceolate. Leaves and stems are covered with fine hairs. Plant has taproot and a woody base. Several inflorescences occur at the end of each branch, and have yellow disc and pale blue or pink ray flowers. Grows 2 to 20 inches tall.

Habitat: Dry, open areas

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Erigeron filifolius* (threadleaf fleabane), *Erigeron linearis* (desert yellow fleabane)



Erigeron speciosus Seedling



Mature *Erigeron speciosus*

Genus: *Erigeron*

Species: *speciosus*

PLANTS Symbol: ERSP4

Common Name: showy fleabane

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are smooth, oblanceolate or spatulate, have entire margins, three main veins and petioles. Plant has a woody base, many stems with numerous leaves. Stems are smooth below the flower heads. Inflorescences are single or multiple at the end of stems, and have yellow disc and blue ray flowers. Occasionally ray flowers are white. Grows 6 to 32 inches tall.

Habitat: Dry, open areas

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Machaeranthera canescens* (hoary tansyaster), *Symphyotrichum spathulatum* (western mountain aster)



Eriophyllum lanatum Seedling



Mature *Eriophyllum lanatum*

Genus: *Eriophyllum*

Species: *lanatum*

PLANTS Symbol: ERLA6

Common Name: Oregon sunshine

Life Form: Annual, biennial or short-lived perennial forb or subshrub

Description: Leaves are irregularly divided into narrow lobes. Leaves and stems are covered with fine white hairs and have grayish-green appearance. Plant has multiple branches and erect to spreading form. Inflorescences are solitary at ends of stems and have yellow disc and yellow ray flowers. Grows 4 to 24 inches tall.

Habitat: Upland slopes, rocky areas

Status: Native

Look-alikes: None



Photo: Brenda Erhardt, Thorn Creek Native Seed Farm

Gaillardia aristata Seedling


Photo: Trish Heekin, Latah SWCD

Mature *Gaillardia aristata*

Genus: *Gaillardia*

Species: *aristata*

PLANTS Symbol: GAAR

Common Name: blanketflower

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are alternate, grayish-green, clasping and have entire to coarsely-toothed margins. Some leaves have a red mid-vein. Leaves and stems are covered with hairs. Inflorescences occur at end of stems, and have yellow to orange disk flowers and yellow ray flowers with notched tips and orange to red centers. Grows 14 to 26 inches tall.

Habitat: Dry, open areas at low to mid elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: In seedling stage, *Helianthella uniflora* (one-flower helianthella)



Grindelia squarrosa Seedling



Mature *Grindelia squarrosa*

Genus: *Grindelia*

Species: *squarrosa*

PLANTS Symbol: GRSQ

Common Name: curlycup gumweed

Life Form: Annual, biennial or short-lived perennial

Description: Leaves have fine to coarse-toothed edges, are alternate and clasping. Leaves and stems are covered with gummy resin. Inflorescences have bright yellow ray and disk flowers. The flower bracts are curled back. Grows to 3 feet tall.

Habitat: Dry, open areas at low elevations, often in sandy or gravelly soil

Status: Native

Look-alikes: In seedling stage, *Solidago missouriensis* (Missouri goldenrod), *Solidago canadensis* (Canada goldenrod)



Helianthella uniflora Seedling



Mature *Helianthella uniflora*

Genus: *Helianthella*

Species: *uniflora*

PLANTS Symbol: HEUN

Common Name: little sunflower

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are lanceolate to elliptical with entire margins and three nerves. Lower leaves are opposite and upper leaves are alternate. Leaves and stems are covered with short, stiff hairs. Multiple stems grow from the same base and are rarely branched, with one inflorescence at the top of each stem. Inflorescences have yellow ray and disk flowers. Grows 8 to 36 inches tall.

Habitat: Dry, open areas at low to mid elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Balsamorhiza sagitatta* (arrowleaf balsamroot), *Balsamorhiza careyana* (Carey's balsamroot), *Gaillardia aristata* (blanketflower), *Helianthus annuus* (annual sunflower)



Helianthus annuus Seedling



Mature *Helianthus annuus*

Genus: *Helianthus*

Species: *annuus*

PLANTS Symbol: HEAN3

Common Name: annual sunflower

Life Form: Annual

Description: Leaves are triangular shaped with toothed margins. Lower leaves are opposite and upper leaves are alternate. Leaves and stems are covered with short, stiff hairs. Stems have multiple branches, with inflorescences at the end of each branch. Ray flowers are yellow and disk flowers are reddish-brown. Grows 2 to 6 feet tall.

Habitat: Dry, open areas, waste areas

Status: Ruderal native

Look-alikes: *Balsamorhiza sagitatta* (arrowleaf balsamroot), *Helianthella uniflora* (little sunflower)



Hieracium aurantiacum Seedling





(top) Mature *Hieracium aurantiacum;* (bottom) *H. caespitosum*

Genus: *Hieracium*

Species: *aurantiacum; caespitosum*

PLANTS Symbol: HIAU; HICA10

Common Name: orange hawkweed; meadow hawkweed

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are mostly basal. Upper surface of leaf has long hairs. Flowering stems have black hairs and are leafless except sometimes have one small leaf. Flowers of *H. aurantiacum* are orange; flowers of *H. caespitosum* are yellow. Flower petals of both species have notched upper margins. Plants grow 1 to 2 feet tall and exude milky sap when broken.

Habitat: Moist areas at low to mid elevations

Status: Noxious; Class B Quarantine in WA, Class A Quarantine in OR, Control in ID

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: None



Mature *Hieracium scoulerii* ssp. *albertinum*



Hieracium scoulerii ssp. *albertinum* Seedling

Genus: *Hieracium*

Species: *scoulerii* ssp. *albertinum*

PLANTS Symbol: HISCA

Common Name: Scouler's woollyweed

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are lanceolate with entire margins and are thickly covered with long, white, soft hairs. Leaves are dense at the bottom and continue up the stem. Stems are branched, and each branch ends in an inflorescence that has yellow flowers and petals with notched upper margins. Plants grow 1 to 3 feet tall and exude milky sap when broken.

Habitat: Dry, open areas in the foothills to higher mountain elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: None



Lactuca serriola Seedling



Mature *Lactuca serriola*

Genus: *Lactuca*

Species: *serriola*

PLANTS Symbol: LASE

Common Name: prickly lettuce

Life Form: Winter annual or biennial

Description: Leaves are entirely or pinnately lobed, prickly on the underside of the mid-vein and along the margins, and are twisted to lie in vertical plane. Stems are branched and inflorescences occur on the branches. Inflorescences are made up of pale yellow flowers. Plant exudes milky juice when broken. Grows 1 to 5 feet tall.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: *Lactuca tatarica* (blue lettuce) (not in this guide), *Senecio vulgaris* (common groundsel), *Sonchus arvensis* (perennial sowthistle), *S. oleraceus* (common sowthistle)



Leucanthemum vulgare Seedling



Mature *Leucanthemum vulgare*

Genus: *Leucanthemum*

Species: *vulgare*

PLANTS Symbol: LEVU

Common Name: oxeye daisy

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Basal leaves are smooth, with petioles and rounded teeth or lobes. Stem leaves are smaller, are smooth, sessile and have rounded teeth or entire margins. Inflorescences occur at end of branches or stems and have white ray flowers and yellow disk flowers. Grows 10 to 24 inches tall.

Habitat: Disturbed moist or shady disturbed areas

Status: Noxious; Class B Quarantine in WA, Containment in ID

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: *Chrysanthemum maximum* (shasta daisy) (not in this guide)



Machaeranthera canescens Seedling



Mature *Machaeranthera canescens*

Genus: *Machaeranthera*

Species: *canescens*

PLANTS Symbol: MACA2

Common Name: hoary tansyaster

Life Form: Annual, biennial or short-lived perennial

Description: Leaves are fleshy and firm, linear to lanceolate shape, have toothed to entire margins, are sparsely to densely hairy and are about 1 to 2 inches long. Stem has multiple branches, ending in inflorescences with white to purple ray flowers and yellow disk flowers. Plant is covered with sticky pungent resin. Grows 6 to 30 inches tall.

Habitat: Dry, open areas in plains and foothills to high elevations in mountains

Status: Ruderal native

Look-alikes: *Symphyotrichum spathulatum* (western mountain aster); however has small overlap in range.



Madia glomerata Seedling





(top) Mature *Madia glomerata*, (bottom) *M. gracilis*

Genus: *Madia*

Species: *glomerata; gracilis*

PLANTS Symbol: MAGL2; MAGR3

Common Name: mountain tarweed; grassy tarweed

Life Form: Annual

Description: Leaves are linear and are present on stems and branches. *M. glomerata* has sticky resinous glands in the inforescences, and *M. gracilis* has sticky resinous glands on all parts of the plant. Inflorescences of *M. glomerata* are tightly packed in small clusters, have inconspicuous ray petals and a few yellow disk flowers. Flowers of *M. gracilis* have 5 to 13 large yellow ray flowers and several yellow disk flowers. Plants grow 4 to 36 inches tall.

Habitat: Dry, open areas at low to moderate elevations

Status: Ruderal native

Look-alikes: *Lagophylla ramosissima* ssp. *ramosissima* (branched lagophylla) (not in this guide)



Matricaria discoidea Seedling



Mature *Matricaria discoidea*

Genus: *Matricaria*

Species: *discoidea*

PLANTS Symbol: MADI6

Common Name: pineapple weed

Life Form: Annual

Description: Leaves smooth, pinnately divided into short, thin, linear segments. Inflorescences lack ray flowers, and disk flowers are yellow. Receptacle is cone-shaped. Plant has a pineapple scent and grows 2 to 15 inches tall.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Moderate

Look-alikes: *Anthemis cotula* (mayweed chamomile), *Tripleurospermum maritimum* (false mayweed)



Onopordum acanthium Rosette



Mature *Onopordum acanthium*

Genus: *Onopordum*

Species: *acanthium*

PLANTS Symbol: ONAC

Common Name: Scotch thistle

Life Form: Biennial

Description: First year growth is a rosette, which can be up to 2 feet across. Leaves are toothed or slightly lobed, are sessile or have short petioles, and are sparsely or densely covered with fine wool. Stems are winged and branched near the top. Each branch ends in an inflorescence with purple, pink to red flowers. Grows up to 8 feet tall.

Habitat: Streambanks, wet areas, and dry, open areas

Status: Noxious; Class B Quarantine in WA and OR, Containment in ID

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: *Cirsium arvense* (Canada thistle), *C. brevifolium* (Palouse thistle), *C. scariosum* (meadow thistle), *C. undulatum* (wavy-leaf thistle)



Senecio integerrimus Seedling



Mature *Senecio integerrimus*

Genus: *Senecio*

Species: *integerrimus*

PLANTS Symbol: SEIN2

Common Name: lambstongue ragwort

Life Form: Biennial or perennial

Description: Early stage or young plant has a short crown. Leaves are large, have entire margins and are elliptical to broadly lanceolate. Basal leaves have petioles; stem leaves are smaller and sessile. Leaves and stem are covered with white, loose hairs when young, but the hairs become sparser as the plant ages. One stem is produced per plant, which is branched at the top into numerous inflorescences with yellow flowers. Grows 8 to 28 inches tall.

Habitat: Open areas in valleys to high mountain elevations

Status: Ruderal native

Look-alikes: *Senecio serra* (tall ragwort), *Solidago missouriensis* (Missouri goldenrod), *S. canadensis* (Canada goldenrod)



Senecio serra Seedling



Mature *Senecio serra*

Genus: *Senecio*

Species: *serra*

PLANTS Symbol: SESE2

Common Name: tall ragwort

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Lower leaves are oblanceolate and deciduous; upper leaves are lanceolate and have sharply-toothed edges. Leaves are not clustered at base, occur along stem and are only slightly diminished upward. Numerous inflorescences with yellow flowers are clustered at top of the stem. Grows 1 to 6 feet tall.

Habitat: Meadows and open, moist or dry hillsides up to moderate mountain elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Senecio integerrimus* (lambstongue ragwort), *Solidago missouriensis* (Missouri goldenrod), *S. canadensis*



Senecio vulgaris Rosette





(top) Mature *Senecio vulgaris*, (bottom) *S. vulgaris*

Genus: *Senecio*

Species: *vulgaris*

PLANTS Symbol: SEVU

Common Name: common groundsel

Life Form: Annual or biennial

Description: Seedling is a rosette of coarsely and irregularly toothed or pinnately lobed leaves that are smooth to hairy. Leaves occur on stem. Lower leaves have petioles and upper leaves are sessile. Stems can be one to several, ending in numerous inflorescences with yellow flowers. Flower heads have about 21 dark-tipped bracts. Grows 4 to 16 inches tall.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Noxious; Class C Weed in WA

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: *Sonchus arvensis* (perennial sowthistle), *S. oleraceus* (common sowthistle), *Lactuca serriola* (prickly lettuce)



Solidago canadensis Seedling



Mature *Solidago canadensis*

Genus: *Solidago*

Species: *canadensis*

PLANTS Symbol: SOCA6

Common Name: Canada goldenrod

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are alternate, entire to sharply toothed, lanceolate, covered with fine hairs, and have three main veins. Stems are covered with fine hairs near the top but are otherwise smooth. Inflorescences are made up of small yellow flowers, and occur on one side of long, drooping panicle branches. Grows 1 to 7 feet tall.

Habitat: Moist areas at low to mid elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Senecio integerrimus* (lambstongue ragwort), *Senecio serra* (tall ragwort), *Solidago missouriensis* (Missouri goldenrod)



Solidago missouriensis Seedling



Mature *Solidago missouriensis*

Genus: *Solidago*

Species: *missouriensis*

PLANTS Symbol: SOMI2

Common Name: Missouri goldenrod

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are alternate, have three main veins and entire to sparsely serrated margins. Basal leaves are oblanceolate and have petioles; upper leaves are smaller, lanceolate and are sessile. Inflorescences are made up of yellow flowers and occur on short, curved panicle branches. Grows 8 to 36 inches tall.

Habitat: Dry areas at low to mid elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Senecio integerrimus* (lambstongue ragwort), *Senecio serra* (tall ragwort), *Solidago canadensis* (Canada goldenrod)



Sonchus arvensis ssp. *arvensis* Seedling



Mature *Sonchus arvensis* ssp. *arvensis*

Genus: *Sonchus*

Species: *arvensis* ssp. *arvensis*

PLANTS Symbol: SOAR2

Common Name: perennial sowthistle

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves have prickly, entire to deeply-toothed margins. Lower and middle leaves are pinnately lobed, and become less lobed, smaller and more widely spaced upward. Stems branch near top. Flower stems have glandular hairs and end in inflorescences with yellow to orange-yellow flowers. Grows 2 to 4 feet tall. Has creeping horizontal roots. Plant exudes milky juice when broken.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Noxious; Class B in WA, Control in ID

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: *Lactuca serriola* (prickly lettuce), *Sonchus oleraceus* (common sowthistle)



Sonchus oleraceus Seedling



Mature *Sonchus oleraceus*

Genus: *Sonchus*

Species: *oleraceus*

PLANTS Symbol: SOOL

Common Name: common sowthistle

Life Form: Annual

Description: Leaf margins have weak prickles. Lower leaves are ovate, and middle leaves are pinnately lobed. Leaves become less lobed, smaller and more widely spaced upward. Branches end in inflorescences with yellow flowers. Grows 4 to 40 inches tall. Has short taproot and plant exudes milky juice when broken.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Moderate

Look-alikes: *Lactuca serriola* (prickly lettuce), *Sonchus arvensis* (perennial sowthistle)



Symphyotrichum spathulatum Seedling



Mature *Symphyotrichum spathulatum*

Genus: *Symphyotrichum*

Species: *spathulatum*

PLANTS Symbol: SYSP

Common Name: western mountain aster

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are smooth with entire margins. Lower leaves are oblanceolate and have petioles; upper leaves are narrow and sessile. Multiple branches. Inflorescences have blue to purple ray flowers and yellow disk flowers. Grows 8 to 36 inches tall.

Habitat: Meadows and open forest areas at low to mid elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Machaeranthera canescens* (hoary tansyaster), however has small range overlap. *Erigeron* spp. can have similar looking flowers, however flowering period is much earlier.



Tanacetum vulgare Seedling



Mature *Tanacetum vulgare*

Genus: *Tanacetum*

Species: *vulgare*

PLANTS Symbol: TAVU

Common Name: common tansy

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are alternate, sessile and deeply pinnately lobed with toothed margins. Inflorescences have yellow flowers, are dry, in dense flat-topped clusters. Plant is aromatic and grows 1.5 to 6 feet tall. Is rhizomatous and forms dense stands.

Habitat: Disturbed, riparian and sub-irrigated areas

Status: Noxious; Class C in WA

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: None



Taraxacum officinale Seedling



Mature *Taraxacum officinale*

Genus: *Taraxacum*

Species: *officinale*

PLANTS Symbol: TAOF

Common Name: dandelion

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are all basal and oblanceolate, have lobes that angle backward. The terminal lobe is the largest. Flower stalks are hollow, exude milky juice when broken, and end in solitary inflorescences. Flowers are bright yellow. Mature seeds and white pappus form a ball. Flower stalks grow 20 inches tall.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Moderate

Look-alikes: In seedling stage, *Lactuca serriola* (prickly lettuce); in rosette stage, *Chicorum intybus* (chicory), *Chondrilla juncea* (rush skeletonweed)



Tragopogon dubius Seedling



Mature *Tragopogon dubius*

Genus: *Tragopogon*

Species: *dubius*

PLANTS Symbol: TRDU

Common Name: western salsify

Life Form: Annual or biennial

Description: Leaves are long and narrow, gradually taper to a point, and have entire margins. Inflorescences have yellow flowers and occur at the tops of branches. Plant exudes a milky juice when broken. Has strong taproot and grows 1 to 3 feet tall.

Habitat: Dry areas at low to mid elevations

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Low

Look-alikes: In seedling stage can be mistaken for a grass.



Mature *Tripleurospermum maritimum*



Mature *Tripleurospermum maritimum*

Genus: *Tripleurospermum*

Species: *maritimum*

PLANTS Symbol: TRMA17

Common Name: false mayweed

Life Form: Annual, biennial or perennial

Description: Leaves are oblong and one to three times pinnately lobed into cylindrical fleshy segments. Stems are one to several, erect or procumbent, and 4 to 20 inches tall. Stems and leaves are smooth. Inflorescences have 10 to 24 white ray flowers and numerous yellow disk flowers. Plant is not aromatic.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Moderate

Look-alikes: *Anthemis cotula* (mayweed chamomile), *Matricaria discoidea* (pineapple weed)



Amsinckia tessellata Seedling





(top) Mature *Amsinckia lycopsoides*, (bottom) *A. tessellata*

Genus: *Amsinckia*

Species: *lycopsoides; menziesii; tessellata*

PLANTS Symbol: AMLY; AMME; AMTE3

Common Name: tarweed fiddleneck; Menzie's fiddleneck; bristly fiddleneck

Life Form: Annual

Description: Leaves alternate, entire, linear to linear-oblong and covered with stiff hairs. Stems also have stiff hairs. Flowers occur on one side of coiled false raceme and are yellow to orange, funnel-shaped. Grows 6 to 24 feet tall.

Habitat: Dry, disturbed areas at low to mid elevations

Status: Ruderal native

Priority for Control: Low

Look-alikes: None



Buglossoides arvensis Seedling



Mature *Buglossoides arvensis*

Genus: *Buglossoides*

Species: *arvensis*

PLANTS Symbol: BUAR3

Common Name: corn gromwell

Life Form: Annual

Description: Lower leaves are oblanceolate and deciduous; upper leaves are oblong or lanceolate and sessile. Leaves and stems are covered with flattened hairs. Stems are simple or sparsely branched, can be few to several, and the middle stem is the largest. Flowers occur in the upper leaf axils, are funnel-shaped with 5 lobes, white to bluish-white. Fruits are 4 prominent nutlets. Grows 4 to 28 inches tall.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Introduced

Priority for Control: Moderate

Look-alikes: None



Cynoglossum officinale Seedling



Mature *Cynoglossum officinale*

Genus: *Cynoglossum*

Species: *officinale*

PLANTS Symbol: CYOF

Common Name: houndstongue

Life Form: Biennial

Description: First-year growth is a rosette of wide, oblanceolate leaves covered with rough hairs. Leaves become smaller up the single stem and are alternate. Reddish-purple tubular flowers are on false racemes that originate in the leaf axils. Grows 1 to 4 feet tall. Seeds are covered with short barbs and attach readily to clothing and animals.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Noxious; Class B in WA, Class B Quarantine in OR, Containment in ID

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: In seedling stage, *Balsamorhiza sagittata* (arrowleaf balsamroot)



Alyssum alyssoides Seedling



Mature *Alyssum alyssoides*

Genus: *Alyssum*

Species: *alyssoides*

PLANTS Symbol: ALAL3

Common Name: yellow alyssum

Life Form: Annual or biennial

Description: Seedling develops into low, spreading plant with grayish-green, lanceolate, alternate, and entire leaves. Mature plant has erect stems that originate from the base. Flowers are small and yellow to white on multiple-flowered racemes at the top of stems. The sepals remain on the plant until the seed pods enlarge. Seed pods have star-shaped hairs. Grows 3 to 10 inches tall.

Habitat: Dry, disturbed areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Low

Look-alikes: *Alyssum desertorum* (desert madwort)



Alyssum desertorum Flower



Mature *Alyssum desertorum*

Genus: *Alyssum*

Species: *desertorum*

PLANTS Code: ALDE

Common Name: desert madwort

Life Form: Annual or biennial

Description: Leaves are green, lanceolate, alternate, and have entire margins. Stem can be simple or branched. Flowers are small and yellow to white on multiple-flowered racemes at the top of stems. The sepals drop from the plant soon after flowers bloom. Seed pods are smooth. Grows 4 to 10 inches tall.

Habitat: Dry, disturbed areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Low

Look-alikes: *Alyssum alyssoides* (yellow alyssum)



Capsella bursa-pastoris Seedling



Mature *Capsella bursa-pastoris*

Genus: *Capsella*

Species: *bursa-pastoris*

PLANTS Symbol: CABU2

Common Name: shepherd's purse

Life Form: Annual or winter annual

Description: Seedling forms a rosette of deeply lobed oblanceolate leaves that are hairy on the underside, smooth above and have petioles. Stem leaves are alternate, lanceolate with entire margins, sessile and clasping. Flowers are small and white, numerous at the end of elongated racemes. Seed pods are flattened and heart-shaped. Grows 3 to 18 inches tall.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Low

Look-alikes: *Chorispora tenella* (blue mustard), *Thlaspi arvense* (field pennycress)



Chorispora tenella Seedling



Mature *Chorispora tenella*

Genus: *Chorispora*

Species: *tenella*

PLANTS Symbol: CHTE2

Common Name: blue mustard

Life Form: Annual or winter annual

Description: Seedling forms a rosette of elliptical to lanceolate, deeply lobed leaves that have wavy or coarsely-toothed margins and no petioles. Stem is branched mostly from the base. Stems and leaves are covered with gland-tipped hairs. Flowers are pink to pale purple, have 4 petals and are on elongated racemes. Grows 6 to 18 inches tall.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: *Sisymbrium altissimum* (tall tumblemustard)



Descurainia sophia Seedling



Mature *Descuriania sophia*

Genus: *Descurainia*

Species: *sophia*

PLANTS Symbol: DESO2

Common Name: herb sophia

Life Form: Annual or biennial

Description: Leaves are alternate, oblong-ovate to oblanceolate, repeatedly compound, and divided into linear segments. Leaves and stems are grayish-green. The inflorescence is a raceme of flowers that have 6 long stamens. Petals are slender, yellowish, and shorter than the sepals. Grows 1 to 3.5 feet tall.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Moderate

Look-alikes: *Sisymbrium altissimum* (tall tumblemustard)



Lepidium perfoliatum Seedling



Mature *Lepidium perfoliatum*

Genus: *Lepidium*

Species: *perfoliatum*

PLANTS Symbol: LEPE2

Common Name: clasping pepperweed

Life Form: Winter annual, annual or biennial

Description: Leaves are alternate. Lower leaves are deeply pinnately dissected or compound, and upper leaves are heart-shaped and strongly clasping. Flowers are small and yellow, have 4 petals and are at the end of stems in elongated racemes. Grows 8 to 24 inches tall.

Habitat: Disturbed dry areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Low

Look-alikes: None



Sisymbrium altissimum Rosette



Mature *Sisymbrium altissimum*

Genus: *Sisymbrium*

Species: *altissimum*

PLANTS Symbol: SIAL2

Common Name: tall tumblemustard

Life Form: Winter annual, annual or biennial

Description: Seedling forms a rosette of deeply pinnately lobed, lanceolate leaves. Stem leaves are alternate, diminish in size upward, are finer with narrow lobes or segments. The lower section of the stem is simple and has stiff hairs; the upper stem is branched and smooth. Flowers are small and pale yellow in racemes. Grows 2 to 5 feet tall. Plant tumbles when dry.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Moderate

Look-alikes: *Chorispora tenella* (blue mustard), *Descuriania sophia* (herb sophia)



Thlaspi arvense Seedling



Mature *Thlaspi arvense*

Genus: *Thlaspi*

Species: *arvense*

PLANTS Symbol: THAR5

Common Name: field pennycress

Life Form: Annual

Description: Few basal leaves. Basal leaves have a short petiole and are pinnately lobed with the end section larger and round. Upward on the stem leaves become sessile, lanceolate to oblanceolate, and dentate to wavy-lobed. Leaves are strongly aromatic when crushed. Flowers are small and white, on racemes. Grows 6 to 18 inches tall. Seed pods are rounded and winged with a notch at the top.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Low

Look-alikes: *Capsella bursa-pastoris* (shepherd's purse)



Mature *Cleome lutea*



Mature *Cleome serrulata*

Genus: *Cleome*

Species: *lutea; serrulata*

PLANTS Symbol: CLLU2; CLSE

Common Name: yellow beeplant; Rocky Mountain beeplant

Life Form: Annual

Description: Leaves of *C. lutea* are divided into 4 to 5 palmate leaflets; *C. serrulata* leaves are divided into 3 palmate leaflets. *C. lutea* flowers are yellow; *C. serrulata* flowers are pink. Seed is produced in linear capsules, similar to mustards. *C. lutea* grows 1 to 3 feet tall; *C. serrulata* grows 1.5 to 5 feet tall.

Habitat: Dry plains to lower mountains

Status: Native

Look-alikes: None



Mature *Dianthus armeria*



Dianthus armeria Seedling

Genus: *Dianthus*

Species: *armeria*

PLANTS Symbol: DIAR

Common Name: grass pink

Life Form: Annual or biennial

Description: Leaves are linear, opposite, smooth, and are reduced in size upward. Flowers are clustered at top of stems, are pink to red, and have 5 petals. Grows 8 to 24 inches tall.

Habitat: Roadsides, disturbed areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Moderate

Look-alikes: *Crupina vulgaris* (common crupina), *Centaurium muehlenbergii* (Muhlenberg's centaury), (neither are in this guide)



Mature *Silene latifolia*



Silene latifolia Flower

Genus: *Silene*
Species: *latifolia*
PLANTS Symbol: SILA21
Common Name: bladder campion
Life Form: Biennial or perennial
Description: Basal leaves have petioles, and are lanceolate to oblanceolate. Stem leaves occur in pairs, are reduced in size and become sessile upward. Stems are stout, are branched at the base and have stiff hairs near the bottom. Plants are dioecious; female flowers are long and tubular, have inflated calyxes, 5 styles, white petals that are broadened where they emerge from the blades and are deeply lobed. Male flowers have 10 stamens that are fused at the base and form a tube. Grows 2 to 4 feet tall.
Habitat: Undisturbed areas, along roads and railroads
Status: Invasive
Priority for Control: Moderate
Look-alikes: *Saponaria officinalis* (bouncingbet), *Silene noctiflora* (nightflowering silene), (neither are in this guide)



Bassia scoparia Seedling



Mature *Bassia scoparia*

Genus: *Bassia*

Species: *scoparia*

PLANTS Symbol: BASC5

Common Name: kochia

Life Form: Annual

Description: Leaves are alternate, lance-shaped, have entire margins fringed with hairs, and have soft hairs on the undersides. Stems have multiple branches and a reddish color. Flowers are green and inconspicuous on short, dense spikes in the upper leaf axils. Grows 1 to 6 feet tall. Plant tumbles when dry.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Noxious; Quarantine in WA and OR

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: *Bassia hyssopifolia* (fivehorn smotherweed) (not in this guide)



Chenopodium album Seedling



Mature *Chenopodium album*

Genus: *Chenopodium*

Species: *album*

PLANTS Symbol: CHAL7

Common Name: lambsquarters

Life Form: Annual

Description: Leaves are alternate, firm and somewhat succulent, ovate to rhombic with a wedge-shaped base, have shallow to deeply wavy margins and a slender petiole. Stems are erect, freely branched, are grayish with mealy coating, and develop a red tinge with age. Flowers are numerous in terminal panicles, greenish with waxy coating, and have 5 stamens. Grows 8 to 40 inches tall.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Ruderal native and introduced/invasive

Priority for Control: low

Look-alikes: *Amaranthus albus* (prostrate pigweed)



Salsola tragus Seedling



Mature *Salsola tragus*

Genus: *Salsola*

Species: *tragus*

PLANTS Symbol: SATR12

Common Name: prickly Russian thistle

Life Form: Annual

Description: Seedling leaves are long, string-like and soft, and leaves on older plants are alternate, short, scale-like and tipped with a stiff spine. Stems are purplish, numerous, spreading and ascending, and can be smooth or hairy. Flowers are green and inconspicuous, solitary or clustered, and occur in the upper leaf axils. Plant tumbles when dry.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: In seedling stage can be mistaken for a grass.



Hypericum perforatum Seedling



Hypericum perforatum Flower

Genus: *Hypericum*

Species: *perforatum*

PLANTS Symbol: HYPE

Common Name: common St. Johnswort

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are opposite, sessile, elliptical to oblong, have entire margins, purplish-black spots and translucent dots. Stems are erect with numerous branches, have 2 ridges and are rust-colored. Flowers occur in clusters at the top of stems, have 5 yellow petals with black dots on the margins. Grows 1 to 3 feet tall.

Habitat: Disturbed areas, dry areas

Status: Noxious; Class C in WA, Class B in OR

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: in seedling stage, *Symphoricarpos albus* (snowberry) (not in this guide)



Convolvulus arvensis Leaves



Mature *Convolvulus arvensis*

Genus: *Convolvulus*

Species: *arvensis*

PLANTS Symbol: COAR4

Common Name: field bindweed

Life Form: Perennial forb or vine

Description: Leaves are arrow-shaped, alternate and smooth and have petioles. Stems are prostrate, 1 to 4 feet long. Flowers are funnel shaped and white to pink or purple.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Noxious; Class C in WA, Class B Quarantine in OR, Containment in ID

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: *Polygonum convolvulus* (black bindweed) (not in this guide)



Bryonia alba Seedling



Mature *Bryonia alba*

Genus: *Bryonia*

Species: *alba*

PLANTS Symbol: BRAL4

Common Name: white bryony

Life Form: Perennial forb or vine

Description: Leaves are palmately lobed, triangular shaped, and upper surfaces have a rough texture. Vines have tendrils that enable the plant to climb vertically. Flowers are yellow to yellow-green and have 5 petals. Berries are green or black and poisonous.

Habitat: Fence rows, hedgerows, wooded areas

Status: Noxious; Class B in WA, Containment in ID

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: *Echinocystis lobata* (wild cucumber) (not in this guide)



Dipsacus fullonum Seedling





Mature *Dipsacus fullonum*

Genus: *Dipsacus*

Species: *fullonum*

PLANTS Symbol: DIFU2

Common Name: Fuller's teasel

Life Form: Biennial

Description: Seedling forms a rosette the first year of oblanceolate, leaves that have a wrinkled texture, wavy margins and spines on the underside of the midrib. The basal rosette dries up the second year, and an angled, prickly stem is produced. Stem leaves are opposite, lanceolate, have entire margins and unite at the stem to form a cup. Flowers are small and purple, are clustered on a cone-shaped head surrounded by spiny bracts. Grows to 8 feet tall.

Habitat: Disturbed moist areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Moderate

Look-alikes: In rosette stage, *Verbascum blattaria* (moth mullein)



Euphorbia esula Seedling



Mature *Euphorbia esula*

Genus: *Euphorbia*

Species: *esula*

PLANTS Symbol: EUES

Common Name: leafy spurge

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Stem leaves are alternate, oblong to linear-oblanceolate, sessile and have entire margins. Leaves on floral branches are heart- to oval-shaped. Flowers are clustered at the end of branches and have multiple male flowers and one female flower. Flowers are yellow to greenish-yellow. The plant is covered in white waxy coating. When broken, plants exude a milky sap which is dermally toxic. Grows 8 to 36 inches tall.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Noxious; Class B Quarantine in WA and OR, Containment in ID

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: escaped cultivars



Astragalus canadensis Seedling



Mature *Astragalus canadensis*

Genus: *Astragalus*

Species: *canadensis*

PLANTS Symbol: ASCA11

Common Name: Canada milkvetch

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are alternate and pinnate with 13 to 29 oblong leaflets. Stems are green and smooth to sometimes grayish with branched hairs. Inflorescence has 50 to 130 pea-like flowers on racemes. Flowers are white to pale yellow with purple-tipped keels. Plants are rhizomatous and grow 1 to 2.5 feet tall when young; become decumbent and trailing when mature.

Habitat: Open areas at low to moderate elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *A. arrectus* (Palouse milkvetch) (not in this guide), *A. cicer* (cicer milkvetch), *A. filipes* (basalt milkvetch), *Hedysarum boreale* (Utah sweetvetch) *Vicia villosa* (hairy vetch)



Astragalus cicer Seedling



Mature *Astragalus cicer*

Genus: *Astragalus*

Species: *cicer*

PLANTS Symbol: ASCI4

Common Name: cicer milkvetch

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are alternate and pinnate with 17 to 29 oblong leaflets. Stems are large and hollow. Inflorescence has 15 to 60 pea-like flowers on racemes. Flowers are white to pale yellow with purple-tipped keels. Plants are rhizomatous and grow 1 to 2.5 feet tall when young; become decumbent and trailing when mature.

Habitat: Disturbed, moist areas

Status: Introduced

Look-alikes: *A. canadensis* (Canada milkvetch), *A. filipes* (basalt milkvetch), *Vicia villosa* (hairy vetch)



Astragalus filipes Seedling



Mature *Astragalus filipes*

Genus: *Astragalus*

Species: *filipes*

PLANTS Symbol: ASFI

Common Name: basalt milkvetch

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are alternate and pinnate with 9 to 25 linear-oblanceolate leaflets. Stems are erect and slender, and originate from a taproot and branched crown. The inflorescence has 10 to 30 cream-colored, pea-like flowers on a raceme. Grows 1 to 3 feet tall.

Habitat: Dry plains at low elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *A. arrectus* (Palouse milkvetch) (not in this guide), *A. canadensis* (Canada milkvetch), *A. cicer* (cicer milkvetch), *Vicia villosa* (hairy vetch)



Dalea ornata Seedling



Mature *Dalea ornata*

Genus: *Dalea*

Species: *ornata*

PLANTS Symbol: DAOR2

Common Name: western prairie clover

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are alternate and pinnate with 5 to 7 elliptic to ovate leaflets and small stipules. A cluster of stems arise from a taproot and grow 1 to 2 feet tall. Stems and leaves are dotted with tiny glands. Stems are smooth except at the base of the flowers. Inflorescences are dense cylindrical spikes of light pink to purple tubular flowers.

Habitat: Dry rocky or sandy areas at low to mid elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Trifolium* spp.



Hedysarum boreale Seedling





Mature *Hedysarum boreale*

Genus: *Hedysarum*

Species: *boreale*

PLANTS Symbol: HEBO

Common Name: Utah sweetvetch

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are compound with two or more leaflets and smooth. Flowers are pink, pea-like and occur in racemes. Grows 1 to 2 feet tall.

Habitat: Open areas at moderate to high elevations

Status: Native to the Great Basin and Intermountain West

Look-alikes: *Astragalus canadensis* (Canada milkvetch), *Onobrychis viscidiflorus* (sainfoin)



Lotus corniculatus Seedling



Mature *Lotus corniculatus*

Genus: *Lotus*

Species: *corniculatus*

PLANTS Symbol: LOCO6

Common Name: birdsfoot trefoil

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are alternate and pinnate with 5 elliptic to obovate leaflets. Lower-most leaflets occur at point of stem attachment. Stems are numerous, prostrate to ascending, and often root at the nodes. Flowers are yellow tinged with red, pea-like and clustered into an umbel. Grows 2 to 3 feet tall.

Habitat: mesic to wet, often disturbed areas

Status: Introduced, can be invasive

Look-alikes: *Lotus unifoliolatus* (Spanish clover), *Medicago sativa* (alfalfa)



Lotus unifoliolatus Seedling



Mature *Lotus unifoliolatus*

Genus: *Lotus*

Species: *unifoliolatus*

PLANTS Symbol: LOUN

Common Name: Spanish clover

Life Form: Annual

Description: Leaves lack a petiole and are divided into three lanced-ovate or oblong-obovate leaflets. Upper leaves may be simple. Stems are erect or decumbent and can be 4 to 24 inches tall. The entire plant is covered with soft hairs. Flowers occur in the leaf axils, are pea-like, pale yellow to cream-colored and have a reddish tinge.

Habitat: Sandy to rocky, open or woody areas at low elevations

Status: Ruderal native

Look-alikes: *Lotus corniculatus* (birdsfoot trefoil), *Medicago sativa* (alfalfa)



Lupinus sp. Seedling



Mature *Lupinus* sp.

Genus: *Lupinus*

Species: multiple species

PLANTS Symbol: LU sp

Common Name: lupine

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are often soft and palmately compound. Typically have a single stem that can end in multiple floral racemes, with white, yellow, pink or purple flowers. Can be up to 3 feet tall.

Habitat: Dry to mesic environments at all elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: None



Medicago sativa Seedling





(top) Mature *Medicago sativa*,
(bottom) *M. sativa* ssp. *falcata*

Genus: *Medicago*

Species: *sativa; sativa* ssp. *falcata*

PLANTS Symbol: MESA; MESAF

Common Name: alfalfa; falcata alfalfa

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves have 3 elliptic-oblanceolate leaflets with finely dentate outer margins. Plant has a taproot and erect stems 1 to 4 feet tall. Flowers are pea-like, on dense racemes. Flowers of *M. sativa* are pink to bluish-purple; flowers of *M. sativa* ssp. *falcata* are yellow.

Habitat: Dry areas

Status: Introduced

Look-alikes: *Lotus corniculatus* (birdsfoot trefoil), *Melilotus officinalis* (sweetclover)



Melilotus officinalis Seedling



Mature *Melilotus officinalis*

Genus: *Melilotus*

Species: *officinalis*

PLANTS Symbol: MEOF

Common Name: sweetclover

Life Form: Annual, biennial or perennial

Description: Leaves have 3 elliptic-ob-lanceolate leaflets with serrated margins. Leaves are waxy and sweetly aromatic. Plant has a taproot and erect, branched stems 2 to 10 feet tall. Flowers are yellow or white, pea-like, on dense racemes.

Habitat: Roadsides and other disturbed areas

Status: Introduced, can be invasive

Look alikes: In seedling stage, *Medicago sativa* (alfalfa); in seedling stage and mature stage, *M. sativa ssp. falcata* (falcata alfalfa)



Onobrychis viciifolia Seedling





Mature *Onobrychis viciifolia*

Genus: *Onobrychis*

Species: *viciifolia*

PLANTS Symbol: ONVI

Common Name: sainfoin

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are pinnate with 11 to 17 elliptic to oblanceolate leaflets that have a sharp tip. Stems are erect, 1 to 3 feet tall. Flowers are pink to lavender with reddish purple lines, pea-like, and in spiked racemes.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Introduced

Look alikes: In seedling stage, *Astragalus canadensis* (Canada milkvetch); in seedling and mature stage, *Hedysarum boreale* (Utah sweetvetch)



Trifolium repens Seedling



Mature *Trifolium* sp.

Genus: *Trifolium*

Species: multiple species

PLANTS Symbol: TR sp

Common Name: clover

Life Form: Annual or perennial

Description: Leaves are palmately or semi-pinnately divided into 3 leaflets. Flowers are on spikes or racemes, can be white, yellow, pink, red or purple. Plants are often rhizomatous.

Habitat: Variety of habitats

Status: Mostly introduced

Look-alikes: None



Vicia tetrasperma Seedling



Mature *Vicia tetrasperma*

Genus: *Vicia*

Species: *tetrasperma*

PLANTS Symbol: VITE

Common Name: lentil vetch

Life Form: Annual forb or vine

Description: Leaves are pinnately divided into 8 to 10 linear to narrowly oblong leaflets that have sharp tips. Leaves end in tendrils. Stem is erect to spreading and climbing, is slender, and can be 1 to 2.5 feet tall. Stems and leaves are smooth. Inflorescence has 2 to 3 bluish, pea-like flowers on a raceme. Seed pods have 4 or 5 seeds.

Habitat: Disturbed or open areas

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Onobrychis viciifolia* (sainfoin), *Vicia villosa* (hairy vetch)





(l-r) *Vicia villosa* Seedling and Flower



Mature *Vicia villosa*

Genus: *Vicia*

Species: *villosa*

PLANTS Symbol: VIVI

Common Name: hairy vetch

Life Form: Annual, biennial or perennial forb or vine

Description: Leaves are pinnately divided into 20 to 40 linear-lanceolate to narrowly oblong leaflets. Leaves end in tendrils. Stem is erect to spreading and climbing, and can be up to 6 feet tall. Stems and leaves are covered thickly with hairs. Inflorescence has 20 to 60 reddish-purple to violet, pea-like flowers on one side of a raceme.

Habitat: Disturbed or open areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Moderate

Look-alikes: *Onobrychis viciifolia* (sainfoin), *Vicia tetrasperma* (lentil vetch)



Erodium cicutarium Seedling



Mature *Erodium cicutarium*

Genus: *Erodium*

Species: *cicutarium*

PLANTS Symbol: ERCI6

Common Name: redstem filaree

Life Form: Winter annual or biennial

Description: Leaves form a basal rosette, are pinnately divided into finely toothed lobes. Stems are 1 to 2 feet long, are spreading or erect. Leaves and stems are hairy. Flowers are pink, have 5 petals and are occur in clusters of two or more.

Habitat: Dry areas at low to mid elevations

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: None



Geranium viscosissimum Seedling





Mature *Geranium viscosissimum*

Genus: *Geranium*

Species: *viscosissimum*

PLANTS Symbol: GEVI2

Common Name: sticky purple geranium

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves have long petioles, are palmately parted into 5 segments that have toothed margins. Grows 16 to 36 inches tall. Lower stems have short hairs and upper stems have stalked glands with sticky aromatic resin. Flowers are grouped together into small clusters; are pink with dark pink veins, have 5 petals and 10 stamens.

Habitat: Moderately dry areas at low to mid elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Sidalcea oregana* (Oregon checkermallow)



Hydrophyllum capitatum Plant



Mature *Hydrophyllum capitatum*

Genus: *Hydrophyllum*

Species: *capitatum*

PLANTS Symbol: HYCA4

Common Name: ballhead waterleaf

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves have long petioles attached to the base and are pinnately divided into 7 to 11 rounded or pointed lobes. The leaves grow up to 6 inches long and are taller than the flowers. Inflorescences occur below the leaves in compact clusters; are made up of tubular purple flowers with 5 petals and 5 stamens that extend beyond the petals.

Habitat: Moist, open areas at low to mid elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: None



Mature *Phacelia hastata*



Mature *Phacelia hastata*

Genus: *Phacelia*

Species: *hastata*

PLANTS Symbol: PHHA

Common Name: silverleaf phacelia

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are broadly lanceolate and have prominent veins and entire margins. Lower leaves have petioles, and upper leaves are sessile and reduced in size. Several stems emerge from the base and are up to 20 inches tall. Leaves and stems are covered with fine pubescence. Inflorescences occur along the stem and are comprised of clusters of tubular white or purple flowers with 5 petals and stamens that extend beyond the petals.

Habitat: Dry, open areas at low to high elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Phacelia heterophylla* (varileaf phacelia)



Phacelia heterophylla Seedling



Mature *Phacelia heterophylla*

Genus: *Phacelia*

Species: *heterophylla*

PLANTS Symbol: PHHE2

Common Name: varileaf phacelia

Life Form: Biennial or perennial

Description: Leaves have prominent veins and entire margins. Leaves are elliptical with 1 or 2 pairs of small leaflets at the base of the blade. Petiole length, but not leaf size, is reduced upward. Plants typically have 1 stem that is 8 to 48 inches tall, and it is sometimes accompanied by a few smaller stems. Leaves and stems are covered with coarse pubescence. Inflorescences occur along the stem and are comprised of clusters of tubular white flowers with 5 petals and stamens that extend beyond the petals.

Habitat: Dry, open areas at low to mid-elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Phacelia hastata* (silverleaf phacelia)



Lamium amplexicaule Seedling



Mature *Lamium amplexicaule*

Genus: *Lamium*

Species: *amplexicaule*

PLANTS Symbol: LAAM

Common Name: henbit

Life Form: Annual

Description: Leaves are opposite and heart-shaped with coarsely-toothed or lobed margins. The lower leaves have petioles and the upper leaves do not. Stems have 4 angles and are branched at the base. Flowers are in whorls in the upper leaf axils; are pink to purple and tubular with 5 petals. Grows to 16 inches tall.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Low

Look-alikes: *Prunella vulgaris* (common selfheal) (not in this guide)



Linum lewisii Seedling



Mature *Linum perenne*

Genus: *Linum*

Species: *lewisii; perenne*

PLANTS Symbol: LILE3; LIPE2

Common Name: Lewis flax; blue flax

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are sessile, alternate, linear, acute to rounded and have one main vein. Multiple stems are produced from a woody crown and are 4 to 24 inches tall. Flowers are produced at the top of stems in a raceme, are blue, have 5 petals that are fused at the base to form a short tube, and have 5 stamens and 5 styles. The only difference between the two species is style length. Styles of *L. lewisii* are all the same length, whereas the styles of *L. perenne* vary in length.

Habitat: Dry, open areas at all elevations

Status: *Linum lewisii* (Lewis flax) is native; *L. perenne* (blue flax) is introduced

Look-alikes, in vegetative stage: *Linaria vulgaris* (butter and eggs) (not in this guide)



Mentzelia laevicaulis Seedling





Mature *Mentzelia laevicaulis*

Genus: *Mentzelia*

Species: *laevicaulis*

PLANTS Symbol: MELA2

Common Name: smoothstem blazingstar

Life Form: Annual, biennial or perennial

Description: Leaves are alternate, lobed, oblanceolate, brittle, and have barbed pubescence. Plants have a deep taproot and a single, branched stem 1 to 3 feet tall. Flowers occur at branch ends and in the upper leaf axils, are star-like, yellow, and have 5 linear, sharp-pointed petals. The flower also has about 50 filaments, 5 of which are sometimes flattened, have no anthers and look like narrow petals.

Habitat: Dry, open gravelly or sandy areas at low to high elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Centaurea solstitialis* (yellow starthistle)



Malva neglecta Seedling



Mature *Malva neglecta*

Genus: *Malva*

Species: *neglecta*

PLANTS Symbol: MANE

Common Name: common mallow

Life Form: Annual, biennial or perennial

Description: Leaves are palmately veined, heart or kidney-shaped, have rounded teeth and long petioles, and are covered with small hairs. Flowers are white to pale lavender, have 5 petals, and occur in small clusters in the leaf axils. The plant is spreading, and the branches can be 24 inches tall or long.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Low

Look-alikes: *Sidalcea oregana* (Oregon checkermallow) *Sphaeralcea* spp. (globe-mallow species)



Sidalcea oregana Seedling



Mature *Sidalcea oregana*

Genus: *Sidalcea*

Species: *oregana*

PLANTS Symbol: SIOR

Common Name: Oregon checkermallow

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Lower leaves are palmately veined with rounded lobes. Upper leaves are more deeply lobed with narrower segments. All leaves are petiolate. Flowers are light to deep pink in simple to compound racemes. Plants are hairy and can grow up to 3 feet in height.

Habitat: Meadows or open ponderosa pine forests

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Geranium viscosissimum* (sticky purple geranium), *Malva neglecta* (common mallow), *Iliamna rivularis* (streambank wild hollyhock) (not in this guide)



Sphaeralcea munroana Seedling



Mature *Sphaeralcea munroana*

Genus: *Sphaeralcea*

Species: *coccinea; grossulariifolia; munroana*

PLANTS Symbol: SPCO; SPGR2; SPMU2

Common Name: scarlet globemallow; gooseberry leaf globemallow; Munro's globemallow

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are alternate, kidney to triangular-shaped, have 3 to 5 lobes or rounded teeth and petioles. Leaves and stems are covered with fine hair and have a grayish-green appearance. Stems of *S. grossulariifolia* and *S. munroana* are erect to spreading and are 8 to 32 inches tall; stems of *S. coccinea* are low and spreading, and are 4 to 16 inches tall. Flowers are produced on compound racemes, have 5 pale orange to dark orange-red petals.

Habitat: Dry plains to open mountain slopes

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Malva neglecta* (common mallow)



Chamerion angustifolium Seedling





Mature *Chamerion angustifolium*

Genus: *Chamerion*

Species: *angustifolium*

PLANTS Symbol: CHAN9

Common Name: fireweed

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are alternate, lanceolate and have entire margins. Stems arise from rhizomes, are usually unbranched, and grow 3 to 9 feet tall. Flowers occur at the top of stems in elongated racemes and have 4 bright pink petals.

Habitat: Open, disturbed, especially burned, areas

Status: Ruderal native

Look-alikes: None



Clarkia pulchella Flower



Clarkia pulchella Seedling

Genus: *Clarkia*

Species: *pulchella*

PLANTS Symbol: CLPU

Common Name: pinkfairies

Life Form: Annual

Description: Leaves are alternate, sessile, linear-lanceolate to spatula-shaped, with entire to finely-toothed margins. Stems are simple or branched. Flowers are on short racemes at the end of branches, and have 4 pink petals that are triple-lobed. Grows 4 to 20 inches tall.

Habitat: Dry, open slopes at low to mid-elevations

Status: Ruderal native

Look-alikes: None



Epilobium brachycarpum Seedling



Mature *Epilobium brachycarpum*

Genus: *Epilobium*

Species: *brachycarpum*

PLANTS Code: EPBR3

Common Name: tall annual willowherb

Life Form: Annual

Description: Leaves are mostly alternate, lanceolate to linear, with entire margins and petioles. Stems have multiple branches. Flowers are on open racemes at the end of branches, are small and have 4 pale pink petals that are double-lobed. Grows 1 to 3.5 feet tall.

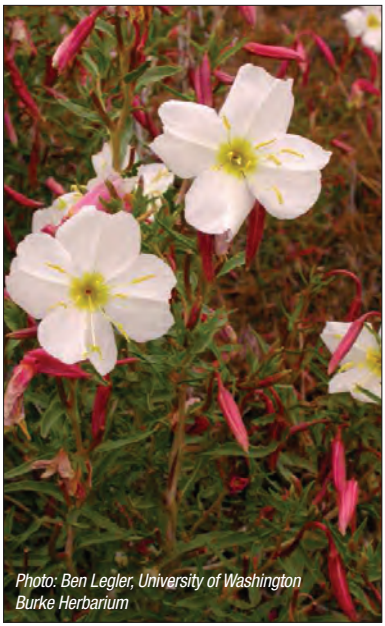
Habitat: Dry meadows or open wooded areas

Status: Ruderal native

Look-alikes: None



Oenothera pallida Seedling



Mature *Oenothera pallida*

Genus: *Oenothera*

Species: *pallida*

PLANTS Symbol: OEPA

Common Name: pale evening primrose

Life Form: Biennial or perennial

Description: Leaves are alternate, linear to linear-lanceolate and have entire to serrated margins. Stems are produced from rhizomes and have whitish bark, are smooth or hairy, can be simple or branched from the base, and are very leafy. Flowers are in spikes, and first appear as drooping pink to purple buds, then open to have 4 white petals with yellow centers. Grows 4 to 20 inches tall.

Habitat: Dry, sandy and gravelly areas

Status: Native

Look-alikes: None





(l-r) *Oenothera biennis; O. villosa* ssp. *strigosa* Seedling



Mature *Oenothera biennis*

Genus: *Oenothera*

Species: *biennis; villosa* ssp. *strigosa*

PLANTS Symbol: OEBI; OEVIS

Common Name: common evening primrose; hairy evening primrose

Life Form: Biennial or perennial

Description: Leaves are alternate, lanceolate and have entire to wavy-toothed margins. Lower leaves have petioles and upper stems are somewhat clasping. Stems are grayish with short flattened hairs or long hairs with a reddish base. Stems can be simple or branched. Flowers are in spikes, and first appear as erect buds, then open to have 4 yellow petals and yellow centers. Flowers open only at night or on cloudy days. Grows 1 to 3 feet tall.

Habitat: Dry, sandy and gravelly areas

Status: Native

Look-alikes: None



Collomia grandiflora Seedling



Mature *Collomia grandiflora*

Genus: *Collomia*

Species: *grandiflora*

PLANTS Symbol: COGR4

Common Name: grand collomia

Life Form: Annual

Description: Leaves are alternate, sessile, and lanceolate with entire margins. Plants grow from a taproot and have a simple or branched stem that can be up to 3 feet tall. Flowers are clustered at the top of branches, are pale orange and tubular with 5 lobes. Anthers extend beyond the floral tube and are bright blue.

Habitat: Dry meadows or open forests at low to mid elevations

Status: Ruderal native

Look-alikes: *Collomia linearis* (tiny trumpet) (not in this guide)



Eriogonum heracleoides Seedling



Mature *Eriogonum heracleoides*

Genus: *Eriogonum*

Species: *heracleoides*

PLANTS Symbol: ERHE2

Common Name: Wyeth's buckwheat

Life Form: Perennial forb or subshrub

Description: Leaves are basal, linear-lanceolate to broadly oblanceolate, grayish green on both sides, and have petioles. Plant forms a woody base that can be 24 inches across and 16 inches tall. Flower stems are 4 to 12 inches tall, have whorls of bracts at the mid-point and at the base of the umbel. Inflorescences are umbels of cream colored, cup shaped flowers that have several lobes.

Habitat: Shrub steppe, meadow steppe and forests at moderate elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Eriogonum* spp. (buckwheat species)



Eriogonum niveum Seedling



Mature *Eriogonum niveum*

Genus: *Eriogonum*

Species: *niveum*

PLANTS Symbol: ERNI2

Common Name: snow buckwheat

Life Form: Perennial forb or subshrub

Description: Leaves are mostly basal, oblong-ovate to broadly lanceolate, about the same length as the petiole and densely hairy on both sides. Plant forms a woody base that is up to 16 inches tall and wide. Stems are branched and covered with fine wool. Flowers are numerous, with 6 cream to pink tepals.

Habitat: Sagebrush desert, dry ponderosa pine forest openings, in deep to shallow, sandy or rocky soil

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Eriogonum* spp. (buckwheat species)



Eriogonum umbellatum Seedling



Mature *Eriogonum umbellatum*

Genus: *Eriogonum*

Species: *umbellatum*

PLANTS Symbol: ERUM

Common Name: sulphur-flower buckwheat

Life Form: Perennial forb or subshrub

Description: Leaves can be oblong to broadly obovate, acute to rounded, or gradually to abruptly narrowed to a slender petiole. Leaves are usually gray and wooly on the under surface and green on top. Plant forms a low mat that is up to 24 inches across and 12 inches tall. Flower stems are up to 12 inches tall and are leafless except for a few small bracts and a whorl of bracts below the umbel. Inflorescences are open umbels of cream to yellow cup-shaped flowers that have several lobes.

Habitat: Sagebrush deserts to rocky alpine ridges

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Eriogonum* spp. (buckwheat species)



Mature *Polygonum cuspidatum*



Mature *Polygonum cuspidatum*

Genus: *Polygonum*

Species: *cuspidatum; sachalinense;* x *bohemicum*

PLANTS Symbol: POCU6; POSA4; POBO10

Common Name: Japanese knotweed; giant knotweed; Bohemian knotweed

Life Form: Perennial forb or subshrub

Description: Leaves are large, coarse, alternate, broadly ovate and have short petioles. Plant grows from creeping rhizomes. Stems are reddish brown, hollow, woody, and die back every year. Stems of *P. cuspidatum* and *P.* x *bohemicum* are 4 to 9 feet tall; stems of *P. sachalinense* can be up to 12 feet tall. Flowers are greenish white to cream, in large plume-like clusters at the ends of stems and in leaf axils. *P.* x *bohemicum* is a hybrid between *P. cuspidatum* and *P. sachalinense*.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Noxious; Class B Quarantine in WA and OR, Control in ID

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: None



Rumex acetosella Seedling



Mature *Rumex acetosella*

Genus: *Rumex*

Species: *acetosella*

PLANTS Symbol: RUAC3

Common Name: common sheep sorrel

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are typically linear to ovate with triangular basal lobes and petioles. One to multiple stems grow from spreading slender rhizomes. Stems are unbranched below the inforescence. Inflorescence is a narrow panicle comprised of multiple small flowers. Plants are dioecious. Male flowers are orange-yellow and female flowers are red-orange. Inflorescence and entire plant turn reddish-brown when mature. Grows 8 to 12 inches tall.

Habitat: Disturbed or open undisturbed areas at low to mid elevations

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Low

Look-alikes: *Rumex crispus* (curly dock)



Rumex crispus Seedling



Mature *Rumex crispus*

Genus: *Rumex*

Species: *crispus*

PLANTS Symbol: RUCR

Common Name: curly dock

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are oblong-lanceolate with curly or wavy margins, and are reduced in size upward. Multiple reddish stems arise from a taproot and grow 2 to 4 feet tall. Inflorescence is a large panicle comprised of multiple small green flowers. Inflorescence and entire plant turn reddish-brown when mature.

Habitat: Moist meadows

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Low

Look-alikes: *Rumex acetosella* (common sheep sorrel)


Photo: Douglas Houck, University of Washington Burke Herbarium


Photo: Pamela Pavek, NRCS

(l-r) *Aquilegia formosa* Flower and Seedling


Photo: Ben Legler, University of Washington Burke Herbarium

Mature *Aquilegia formosa*

Genus: *Aquilegia*

Species: *flavescens, formosa*

PLANTS Symbol: AQFL; AQFO

Common Name: yellow columbine; western columbine

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are mostly basal, have long petioles, and are divided into 3 segments which are again divided into 3 segments. Leaflets are obovate and have 2 to 3 lobes. Stems have woody base, are branched and are 6 to 40 inches tall. Flowers are nodding, have spurs, 5 sepals and 5 petals. *A. flavescens* petals and sepals are yellow; *A. formosa* sepals are red, and petals are yellow.

Habitat: *A. flavescens*: moist meadows and talus on alpine slopes; *A. formosa*: open woods at low to mid elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Thalictrum occidentale* (western meadowrue) (not in this guide)



Ranunculus repens Seedling



Mature *Ranunculus repens*

Genus: *Ranunculus*

Species: *repens*

PLANTS Symbol: RARE3

Common Name: creeping buttercup

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Basal leaves are compound, deltoid, with toothed-margins and long petioles. Stem leaves are reduced in size, alternate and also have petioles. Stems are decumbent, root at the lower nodes, and can be up to 40 inches long. Flowers are single, with 5 greenish sepals and 5 or more yellow petals.

Habitat: Moist areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Moderate

Look-alikes: Other *Ranunculus* spp.



Geum triflorum Seedling



Mature *Geum triflorum*

Genus: *Geum*

Species: *triflorum*

PLANTS Symbol: GETR

Common Name: prairie smoke

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are soft, hairy and grayish, mostly basal, oblong to obovate, pinnate or pinnately lobed, and segments have 2 to 3 teeth. There are 2 small opposite stem leaves at mid-stem. Plants grow from thick rhizomes and can be 12 inches across. Flowering stems are 12 inches tall, and each produces 3 flowers in a terminal, open cluster. Flowers have 5 rose colored sepals with spreading bracts. Sepals are cup-shaped, narrow to a point, and enclose 5 pink to yellow, barely visible petals. Seeds have a feathery awn.

Habitat: Moist areas in sagebrush plains, desert foothills to subalpine ridges, and dry open prairies.

Status: Native

Look-alikes: None



Potentilla arguta Seedling



Mature *Potentilla arguta*

Genus: *Potentilla*

Species: *arguta*

PLANTS Symbol: POAR7

Common Name: tall cinquefoil

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Basal leaves are hairy and pinnately divided into 7 to 9 ovate to elliptic, doubly serrated segments. Stem leaves are few and smaller. Stems are branched at the base, are purplish with brown sticky hairs, and are 16 to 32 inches tall. The inflorescence is narrow and flat-topped, and consists of several flowers with 5 pale yellow to creamy-white petals, numerous yellow pistils and 25 yellow stamens.

Habitat: Open areas at mid to high elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: None



Potentilla gracilis Seedling





Mature *Potentilla gracilis*

Genus: *Potentilla*

Species: *gracilis*

PLANTS Symbol: POGR9

Common Name: slender cinquefoil

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Basal leaves are palmately divided into 7 to 9 broadly oblanceolate to oblong-elliptic, toothed and deeply dissected segments. Leaves are typically deep green on the upper side and whitish on the underside. There are 1 to 2 small stem leaves. Stems are branched at the base and are 16 to 32 inches tall. The inflorescence is open and flat-topped, and consists of several flowers with 5 bright yellow petals, numerous yellow pistils and 20 yellow stamens.

Habitat: Variety of habitats in dry or moist areas at low to high elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Potentilla recta* (sulphur cinquefoil)



Potentilla recta Seedling



Mature *Potentilla recta*

Genus: *Potentilla*

Species: *recta*

PLANTS Symbol: PORE5

Common Name: sulfur cinquefoil

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are palmately divided into 5 to 7 oblanceolate, strongly-veined, deeply serrated segments. Leaves are yellowish-green on both upper and undersides. Stems are erect, branched, and very leafy, and are 12 to 32 inches tall. The inflorescence is flat-topped and consists of flowers with 5 creamy yellow, notched petals, numerous darker yellow pistils and 25 yellow stamens.

Habitat: Roadsides and disturbed areas

Status: Noxious; Class B in WA, Class B Quarantine in OR

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: *Potentilla gracilis* (slender cinquefoil)



Sanguisorba minor Seedling



Mature *Sanguisorba minor*

Genus: *Sanguisorba*

Species: *minor*

PLANTS Symbol: SAMI3

Common Name: small burnet

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Basal leaves are pinnately divided into 9 to 17 coarsely serrated leaflets. Stem leaves are smaller and have stipules. Stems are leafy and branched at the base. The inflorescence is a spike comprised of many greenish to rose-tinged flowers that have no petals. Lower flowers are male and have 12 stamens; upper flowers are female and have 2 pistils. Grows 8 to 24 inches tall.

Habitat: Disturbed areas

Status: Introduced

Look-alikes: *Sanguisorba annua* (prairie burnet) (not in this guide)



Mature *Cruciata pedemontana*



Mature *Cruciata pedemontana*

Genus: *Cruciata*

Species: *pedemontana*

PLANTS Symbol: CRPE10

Common Name: piedmont bedstraw

Life Form: Annual

Description: Leaves are in whorls of 4, elliptic or oblong and taper to a point. Stems are spreading and unbranched, 4 to 16 inches long. Leaves and stems are lime-green and have a rough texture due to stiff hairs. Inflorescences are groups of 2 to 4 small yellow flowers in the leaf axils.

Habitat: Disturbed open areas

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Moderate

Look-alikes: *Galium aparine* (catchweed bedstraw)



Mature *Galium aparine*



Mature *Galium aparine*

Genus: *Galium*

Species: *aparine*

PLANTS Symbol: GAAP2

Common Name: catchweed bedstraw

Life Form: Annual

Description: Leaves are in whorls of 8, are sessile, narrow, end in a sharp point, and have 1 main vein with stiff, curved hairs on the margins. Stems are weak and sticky, and are 4 to 40 inches long. Inflorescences are groups of 3 to 5 greenish-white flowers on peduncles in the leaf axils.

Habitat: Variety of habitats at all elevations

Status: Ruderal native and introduced

Look-alikes: *Cruciata pedemontana* (piedmont bedstraw), *Galium boreale* (northern bedstraw)



Photo: Brenda Erhardt, Thorn Creek Native Seed Farm

Galium boreale Seedling


Photo: Trish Heekin, Latah SWCD

Mature *Galium boreale*

Genus: *Galium*

Species: *boreale*

PLANTS Symbol: GABO2

Common Name: northern bedstraw

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are in whorls of 4, are sessile, lanceolate to linear, and have 3 main veins. Plants arise from creeping rhizomes and have multiple erect stems 8 to 24 inches tall. Leaves and stems can have a smooth or rough texture. Inflorescences are terminal panicles with numerous white or creamy-white flowers.

Habitat: Areas receiving moderate amounts of precipitation at all elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: *Galium aparine* (catchweed bedstraw)



Lithophragma sp. Seedling





(top) Mature *Lithophragma glabrum*, (bottom) *L. parviflorum*

Genus: *Lithophragma*

Species: *glabrum; parviflorum*

PLANTS Symbol: LIGL2; LIPA5

Common Name: bulbous woodland star; small-flower woodland star

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are mostly basal, somewhat round to kidney-shaped, and are divided into 5 wedge-shaped, toothed or lobed segments. Stem leaves are somewhat sessile and smaller. *L. glabrum* has reddish-purple bulblets in the stem axils. Reddish stems arise from rhizomes that have numerous bulblets, and grow 2 to 12 inches tall. *L. parviflorum* is usually taller. Inflorescences are at the ends of the stems and consist of multiple flowers with 5 deeply cleft pink to purple (*L. glabrum*) or white to pink (*L. parviflorum*) petals.

Habitat: Grasslands, deserts and forests at low to mid-elevation

Status: Ruderal native

Look-alikes: None



Linaria dalmatica ssp. *dalmatica* Regrowth



Mature *Linaria dalmatica* ssp. *dalmatica*

Genus: *Linaria*

Species: *dalmatica* ssp. *dalmatica*

PLANTS Symbol: LIDA2

Common Name: Dalmatian toadflax

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are dense, sessile and alternate with entire margins; upper leaves have broad bases. Flowers are produced in upper leaf axils and are 2-lipped, yellow, have a long spur and an orange, bearded throat. Plants have an extensive system of vertical and creeping roots. Grows up to 3 feet tall.

Habitat: Open areas

Status: Noxious; Class B Quarantine in WA and OR, Containment in ID

Priority for Control: High

Look-alikes: *Linaria vulgaris* (butter and eggs) (not in this guide)



Penstemon venustus Seedling





(top) Mature *Penstemon attenuatus*, (bottom) *P. confertus*

Genus: *Penstemon*

Species: multiple species

PLANTS Symbol: PE sp.

Common Name: penstemon

Life Form: Perennial

Description: Leaves are opposite and can be elliptical, lanceolate or oblong. Leaf margins are entire or serrated. Stems arise from a woody base and are 6 to 36 inches tall. Flowers are produced in terminal panicles, have 5 petals that are fused to form a tube, and range in color from white and yellow to pink, purple, blue and red. Some flowers have bright colored lines or hairs which guide bees to the nectar deep inside the tube.

Habitat: Variety of habitats and soil types at mid to high elevations

Status: Native

Look-alikes: None



Verbascum blattaria Rosette





Mature *Verbascum blattaria*

Genus: *Verbascum*

Species: *blattaria*

PLANTS Symbol: VEBL

Common Name: moth mullein

Life Form: Biennial

Description: First-year growth is a basal rosette with broadly oblanceolate leaves with a long petiole and toothed, sometimes lobed, margins. Second-year growth consists of a single stem that is 2 to 5 feet tall. Stem leaves are alternate, reduced upward and become clasping. The inflorescence is a dense, elongated spike of flowers with 5 sepals, 5 slightly irregular yellow or white petals, and 5 stamens.

Habitat: Open disturbed areas with variable moisture conditions

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Moderate

Look-alikes: *Dipsacus fullonum* (Fuller's teasel)



Verbascum thapsus Rosette



Mature *Verbascum thapsus*

Genus: *Verbascum*

Species: *thapsus*

PLANTS Code: VETH

Common Name: common mullein

Life Form: Biennial

Description: First-year growth is a basal rosette with broadly oblanceolate leaves that have a long petiole and entire margins. Second-year growth consists of a single stem that is 6 feet tall. Stem leaves are alternate, reduced upward and become clasping. The entire plant is covered with white-wooly branched hairs. The inflorescence is a dense, elongated spike of flowers with 5 sepals, 5 slightly irregular yellow petals, and 5 stamens.

Habitat: Open disturbed areas with variable moisture conditions

Status: Invasive

Priority for Control: Moderate

Look-alikes: *Stachys byzantina* (lamb's ears) (not in this guide)

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