

# Colorado's weeds to watch for:

1. Yellow starthistle
2. Purple loosestrife
3. Dyer's woad
4. African rue
5. Rush skeletonweed

To view the complete list of List A species, visit our website: [www.colorado.gov/ag/csd](http://www.colorado.gov/ag/csd).



For more information about the Colorado Noxious Weed Program, please call State Weed Coordinator Steve Ryder at 303-239-4173 or send an email to [Steve.Ryder@ag.state.co.us](mailto:Steve.Ryder@ag.state.co.us).

For local assistance with noxious weeds, please contact your local county weed supervisor.

A directory can be obtained by calling this number: 970-848-2509. Or try online under [www.colorado.gov/ag/csd](http://www.colorado.gov/ag/csd) and click on the County Weed Programs to find your county information. Your local Colorado State University Cooperative Extension office is a valuable resource as well. To find the office nearest you, please call 970-491-6281 or visit their website [www.ext.colostate.edu/](http://www.ext.colostate.edu/)



## Noxious Weed Management Program





# Introduction

Whether you live, work, or play in Colorado, noxious weeds threaten many of the natural resources that you have come to appreciate, value, or depend upon for your livelihood.

These aggressive, non-native plants are rapidly changing the face of Colorado's landscapes by interfering with the natural processes, native species, and management of our lands.

Whether you are a homeowner who wants to maintain the beauty and character of your community; a citizen who enjoys outdoor pursuits such as hunting, fishing, rafting, cycling, or hiking; a conservationist who cares about native plants, wildlife, and Colorado's natural heritage; or a farmer/rancher who wants to preserve the productivity and health of the land, noxious weeds severely threaten your way of life and the natural resources you value.

In response to these threats, the Colorado Department of Agriculture, with assistance from numerous public and private organizations, has launched the Colorado Noxious Weed Management Program to prevent the introduction, and to stop the spread and establishment of noxious weeds.

## Our Mission

- To prevent the introduction of new invasive plant species into Colorado.
- To quickly detect and eradicate noxious weed species with isolated or limited populations.
- To stop the spread and manage noxious weeds whose populations are well-established and widespread in Colorado that statewide eradication is no longer possible.
- To restore infested lands of exceptional agricultural and environmental value.



## Our services

- Implement preventative strategies to reduce the opportunity for new invasive species to spread into Colorado.
- Assist local and state agencies in guidance, coordination, technical assistance, and additional resources to fulfill their obligations to manage weeds by identifying problem species adjacent to the region having the potential to invade, reviewing draft management plans and ordinances.
- Promote Early Detection and Rapid Response to all public and private landowners in the state by providing species alert lists, identification resources, and reporting protocols for targeted plant pest species and to provide planning assistance to rapidly respond to detected species.
- Continue to work with weed managers to develop statewide weed management plans for all List A and List B species under the Rules Pertaining to the Administration and Enforcement of the Colorado Noxious Weed Act.
- Promote sensible policy changes in all state and federal agencies to prevent, eradicate, and contain noxious weed populations.
- Assist in establishing local weed management areas that emphasize coordinated efforts among public and private landowners to effectively manage widespread weed populations.
- Educate public agency staff, private organizations, and private citizens about the negative associated with noxious weeds and how to manage them successfully.
- Create and maintain information systems such as mapping and inventory databases that benefit weed managers and Colorado landowners.
- Administer the Colorado Noxious Weed Management Fund to provide additional financial resources to promote innovative and effective weed management actions across the state.

## Regulatory

The Colorado Noxious Weed Act (35-5.5-101-119 C.R.S.) enables County and City governments to implement management programs aimed at noxious weeds in order to reclaim infested acres and protect weed-free land. The Law was revised in 1996 and again in 2003. **Recent changes include the State Noxious Weed List categorized into three separate lists, A, B, and C.**

**List A weeds** are non-native species whose distribution in Colorado is still limited. Preventing new infestations are the highest priority. Eradication of all List A species is required by law.

**List B weeds** are non-native species that are limited to portions of the state. Species are designated for control in regions where they are not yet widespread. Preventing new infestations is a high priority. In areas where List B species have already become established, state noxious weed management plans are designed to stop their continued spread.

**List C weeds** are non-native species which are already widespread in Colorado or are of special interest to the agricultural industry. State noxious weed management plans will be designed to support the efforts of local governing bodies to facilitate more effective integrated weed management on private and public lands.

**To view species on the Noxious Weed List, please visit the CDA website [www.colorado.gov/ag/csd](http://www.colorado.gov/ag/csd)**

