

# ABSINTH WORMWOOD

(*Artemisia absinthium*)



## Distinguishing Features:

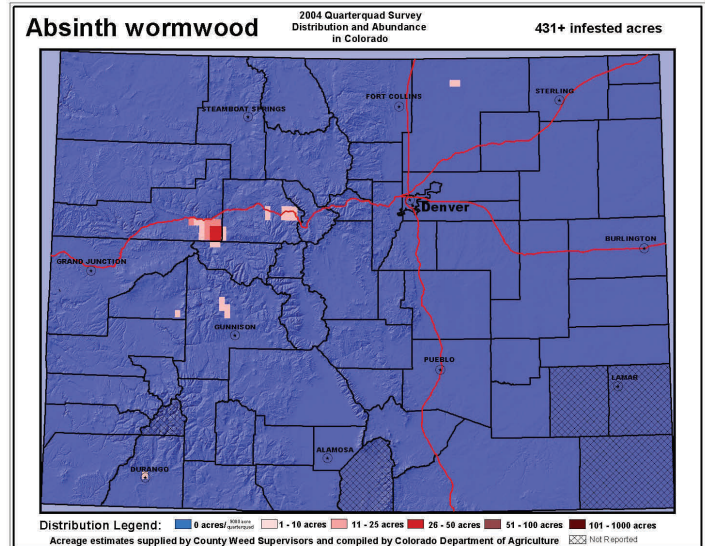
- A perennial semi-woody, clump forming, subshrub with strongly aromatic foliage.
- Absinth is well branched and gets 3 feet tall and 2 feet across.
- Silvery-grey leaves are divided into oblong fingerlike segments and both stems and leaves are clad in silky, silvery hairs.
- The rather uninteresting dull yellow flower heads are about an 1/8 inch across and droop in leafy clusters.

## Typical Habitat:

- Plants prefer disturbed sites, grow in a variety of soils and are shade tolerant.
- It grows at an elevation range of 5,000 to 7,000 feet and prefers moist soils.
- Considered a threat to pasturelands, croplands, and rangelands.
- Native to Eurasia, the Middle East and North Africa.



Report all sightings  
to your local  
weed manager  
immediately!



## Impacts:

- Plants reduce livestock and wildlife forage by out-competing native species.
- Absinth is allelopathic, releasing chemicals which prevent germination and inhibit seedling growth in some native species.
- The milk of cattle that graze absinth wormwood is strongly flavored and rejected for consumption.
- Grain containing absinth is also tainted and rejected for use in flour.

## Contact:

# ABSINTH WORMWOOD CONTROL OPTIONS

## Chemical Control:

(listed in order of efficacy)

- Picloram (*Tordon* - *restricted use*)
  - ~ 1 pint product/acre
  - ~ Apply when plant is 12 inches tall through flowering growth stage
  - ~ Do not use near trees, desirable shrubs or water
- Aminopyralid (*Milestone* - *general use*)
  - ~ 7 fl oz product/acre
  - ~ Apply when plant is 12 inches tall through flowering
- Clopyralid + 2,4-D (*Curtail* - *general use*)
  - ~ 2 quarts product/acre
  - ~ Apply when plant is 12 inches tall through flowering growth stage
- Dicamba (*Banvel*, *Vanquish*, *Clarity* - *general use*)
  - ~ 1 quart product/acre
  - ~ Apply when plant is 12 inches tall through flowering growth stage
  - ~ Do not use near trees, desirable shrubs, or water

*The soil seed reserve of absinth wormwood is unknown. The site must be monitored for at least 10 years after the last flowering adult plants have been eliminated and treatments repeated when necessary.*

*Not all products listed are for use near homes. Be sure and read the label to determine if a listed product is appropriate for your site. The label is the law!*



## Mechanical Control:

- Handpull or dig when soil is moist.
- Make certain to pull all the roots, including short horizontal roots.
- Bag specimens carefully so as to not scatter seeds if removed during or after flowering.



**There is no biocontrol available or approved for absinth wormwood!**

Absinth wormwood is a State of Colorado List B Noxious Weed.  
Absinth wormwood is designated for eradication in most parts of the state.

Eradication requires intensive and persistent control efforts to effectively eliminate weed infestations and soil seed reserves.

Contact your local weed manager for more information.



A list of local weed managers can be found at:  
[http://www.ag.state.co.us/csd/weeds/mapping/  
countyprograms.html](http://www.ag.state.co.us/csd/weeds/mapping/countyprograms.html)

