

Oxeye Daisy

Leucanthemum vulgare Lam.



Plant Family: Sunflower (Asteraceae)

Other Names: White daisy, field daisy

Similar Species: Shasta daisy

Weed Classification: Priority 2B

Native to: Asia and Europe

Is This Weed Toxic? Not known to be

Identification

Oxeye daisy is a perennial plant in the sunflower family native to Eurasia that has been established in our environment of Montana after being sold as an ornamental for many years. These noxious weeds look similar to Shasta daisies and are sometimes sold incorrectly as a desirable and attractive ornamental, but unlike Shasta daisies, Oxeye's will quickly take over your flowerbed and beyond. Growing 1 – 3 feet tall, they are erect plants that grow in rosettes sporting multiple solitarily-flowering stems adorned with coarsely-toothed hairless leaves. The flowers are much smaller than their Shasta cousin at around 1-2" across with a bright yellow center and bright white petals. This weed produces via both seed and creeping rhizomes with an individual plant capable of producing thousands of seeds that can remain viable in the soil for as long as 6 years.

Treatment

Early detection along with using only certified weed-free seed when planning restoration/reseeding projects (this seed can sometimes be found in 'restoration' seed mixes) and checking hay and straw for plant presence before feeding to stock are ways to prevent an infestation.

In cultivated settings, tilling on a repeated basis can be effective in certain situations, although if used improperly this can greatly increase both the concentration and range of your daisy problem.

Mowing is simply a suppression technique when used for these weeds and should not be expected to kill the plants. Mowing should occur after bolting but before seeds set, and repeated as necessarily throughout the summer. This can be impractical if working on larger acreages or in area that is to be harvested.

Hand-pulling can be effective on small infestations but care must be taken to remove the entire root and rhizome system or new plants will appear later that season or the following season.

Burning is not considered a viable method of control.

Grazing this weed can go either way with this weed. Horses, sheep and goats will readily graze it but cattle and pigs will not. Well timed prescribed grazing can reduce your oxeye establishment while maintain the vigor of desirable rangeland plants. Grazing should be carefully monitored to prevent damage to desirable vegetation.

Herbicide can be used to manage daisy on rangeland, wildland, and pasture sites. Combining herbicide application with maintaining a healthy plant community via fertilization and proper grazing can show very positive results.

USDA. "Field Guide for Managing Oxeye Daisy in the Southwest." *USDA Field Guide* (2015): n. pag. *Fs.usda.gov*. Forest Service. Web. 1 Feb. 2017.

Mangold, Jane, Roger Sheley, and Melissa Brown. "Oxeye Daisy: Identification, Biology, and Integrated Management." *MontGuide* (2009): n. pag. *Store.msuxextension.org*. Montana State University. Web. 1 Feb. 2017.

"Oxeye Daisy." *Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board*. NWCB, n.d. Web. 03 Mar. 2017.



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