



## Plumeless Thistle

(*Carduus acanthoides*)



### Plumeless thistle

<b>General</b>	Family: Sunflower (Asteraceae) Introduced from Europe <b>Colorado List B - Eradication Required in Jefferson County</b>
<b>Habitat</b>	Herbaceous biennial or short lived perennial Found in disturbed areas such as overgrazed pastures, rangelands, and roadsides
<b>PLANT</b>	
<b>Vegetation</b>	Plant 3-8 feet tall Leaves dark green with lighter mid-rib, hair on underside, spines on edges Stems winged with spines along edges Flower-heads at the tips of shoots
<b>Roots</b>	Taproot
<b>Flower</b>	June - September Reddish purple ½ -1 inch wide Bracts are narrow and tipped with a spine
<b>Seed</b>	Lacks pappus
<b>Seedling</b>	Rosettes formed the first year and bolt early in May to June of the next year
<b>Reproduction</b>	Seed

<b>CONTROL</b>			
<b>BIOLOGICAL</b>	None		
<b>CHEMICAL</b>	<i>Stage</i>	<i>Herbicide</i>	<i>Timing</i>
	Rosette thru early bolt stage	2,4-D plus Dicamba (many) Aminopyralid (Milestone) Diflufenzopyr (Overdrive) Metsulfuron (Escort XP) Picloram (Tordon <i>Restricted Use</i> )	Spring Fall
<b>CULTURAL</b>	Prevention - Maintain health of site Removal - Hand pulling works when populations are small and isolated. Tap root must be severed at least 2-3 inches below ground Revegetation of highly disturbed sites Grass competition - Promote grass growth by fertilization, irrigation, reseeding		
<b>MECHANICAL</b>	<i>Stage</i>	<i>Method</i>	<i>Timing</i>
<b>Mowing</b>	N/A	Not Recommended. Plants will regrow from crown and may produce as many seeds as unmown plants	
<b>Burning</b>	N/A		
<b>Grazing</b>	N/A		

Use all chemicals according to the manufacturer's label. No specific recommendation or endorsement is made or implied by listing the above methods or products.

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