



Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)



Purple loosestrife

General	Family: Lythraceae Introduced from Europe Has been sold as an ornamental but no longer available in Colorado Colorado List A - Eradication Required
Habitat	Perennial forb Infestations are found in wetlands, creeks, drainages Displaces native species. Reduces waterfowl habitat Prefers a moist, organic soil but tolerates wide range of soils Prefers full sun but can tolerate up to 50% shade
PLANT	
Vegetation	Mature plants are 6-8 feet tall Narrow leaves attached closely to the stem Leaves have veins that parallel the leaf edge
Roots	Tap root with woody lateral branches
Flower	Rose-purple on spike shaped inflorescence June through September 2-3 million seeds per year per plant
Seed	Germinate in Spring
Reproduction	Seed Cut stems Root fragments

CONTROL			
BIOLOGICAL	None Eradication is required		
CHEMICAL	<i>Stage</i>	<i>Herbicide</i>	<i>Timing</i>
	Flowering - remove and bag flowers before spraying	2,4-D (Aquatic) Glyphosate (Rodeo) Triclopyr (Garlon 3A)	Late Summer
CULTURAL	Prevention Removal - Hand pulling young plants, prior to seed set		
MECHANICAL	<i>Stage</i>	<i>Method</i>	<i>Timing</i>
Burning	N/A		
Grazing	N/A		
Mowing	N/A	Not recommended -Will spread seed and plants resprout	

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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