



## Spotted Knapweed

(*Centaurea stobe*)



### Spotted knapweed

<b>General</b>	<p>Family: Sunflower (Asteraceae)                  Native to Central Europe                  Introduced to North America in the late 1800's or early 1900's  <b>Colorado List B - Eradication Required in Jefferson County</b></p>
<b>Habitat</b>	<p>Long-lived biennial/short lived herbaceous perennial                  Found in meadows, pastures, roadsides, and sandy or gravelly floodplains of streams and rivers                  Causes serious decline in forage and crop production                  Roots do not hold soil as well as native vegetation so soil erosion is sometimes an associated problem                  Releases a toxin that reduces growth of forage species                  Areas heavily infested with spotted knapweed will probably need to be reseeded once the plant is controlled</p>

### PLANT

<b>Vegetation</b>	<p>1-4 feet tall with 1-20 upright stems                  Rosette leaves are 6 inches long and deeply lobed                  Forms rosettes the first year. Bolts in the spring of second growing season (May to June)</p>
<b>Roots</b>	<p>Taproot</p>
<b>Flower</b>	<p>June-October                  Pink or purple                  Single                  1/2 inch wide                  Bracts have black tips</p>
<b>Seed</b>	<p>Each plant can produce as many as 25,000 seeds                  Most seeds fall within 3 feet of the plant                  Seeds can stay dormant for 8 years</p>
<b>Seedling</b>	<p>Seeds germinate in spring or fall forming a rosette.                  Peak germination is in May</p>
<b>Reproduction</b>	<p>Seed</p>

<b>CONTROL</b>			
<b>BIOLOGICAL</b>	<i>Bio-control is not an option in eradication zones.</i>		
<b>CHEMICAL</b>	<i>Stage</i>	<i>Herbicide</i>	<i>Timing</i>
	Rosette - Early bolt	Aminopyralid (Milestone) Clopyralid (Transline, Stinger) Clopyralid + 2,4-D (Curtail) Picloram (Tordon 22K - <i>Restricted Use</i> )	Spring or Fall
<b>CULTURAL</b>	Prevention - Promote healthy desirable grass growth through irrigation or revegetation Removal - Make sure the entire root is removed. Must be repeated as new plants germinate Bag and dispose of flowerheads after buds are formed Hand pulling or clipping seedheads in very small areas Reseeding - Use fast growing grasses		
<b>MECHANICAL</b>	<i>Stage</i>	<i>Method</i>	<i>Timing</i>
<b>Burning</b>	N/A		
<b>Grazing</b>	N/A		
<b>Mowing</b>	Prior to seed set	Mow to remove seedheads before seed set. This method will not control but will slow the spread by seed. Follow with herbicide treatment.	May-early June

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.

12/2017