



St. Johnswort
Hypericum perforatum



St. Johnswort

General	Family: St. Johnswort (Clusiaceae) Introduced from Europe Colorado List C - Control recommended
Common names	Common St. Johnswort Klamath weed
Habitat	Herbaceous perennial Colony forming Found in pastures and rangeland

PLANT

Vegetation	Mature plants up to 3 feet tall Leaves 3/8 inch wide and 1 inch long. Translucent glands visible when held up to light Stems with reddish spots, woody base Creeping stems above and below soil surface
Roots	Taproot and rhizomes
Flower	May-July Yellow with small black dots along the edge 3/4-1 inch wide Groups of five petaled flowers at the end of branches
Seed	More than 30,000 seeds per plant May remain viable for up to 30 years
Reproduction	Seed, rhizomes, vegetatively

CONTROL -- CHEMICAL		
Timing	Herbicide	Notes
Spring to Early Summer Young plants to bud stage	2,4-D (various) Aminopyralid (Milestone) Metsulfuron (Escort and others) Picloram (Tordon) restricted use	Use of a surfactant is recommended for most herbicides to help increase contact with the vegetation and to facilitate herbicide uptake. Refer to the specific label for the appropriate type of surfactant. Treating at the rosette and younger growth stages stops weeds from using resources that desirable plants need to prosper. Refer to the individual label for allowed sites, specific timing, and restrictions about grazing and haying. Formulations with more than one active ingredient are available. Control will take a few years so treatment will need to be repeated.
CONTROL -- NON-CHEMICAL		
Technique	Timing	Method
Biological	Spring-Summer	Leaf feeding beetle (<i>Chrysolina</i> spp.)
Burning	N/A	Not recommended, fire encourages St. Johnswort
Cultivation	N/A	
Grazing	N/A	Not recommended. St Johnswort contains hypericin which is harmful to animals
Mowing	N/A	
Prevention	Anytime	Maintain the health of the site by encouraging healthy stands of grass.
Removal	Not recommended	Hand pulling is not effective. Pulling perennial weeds with deep or spreading roots breaks the roots. New plants grow from the fragmented pieces and can increase an infestation.
	Spring to Fall Flowering	Plants may be clipped near the base. Place the cut plants into trash bags and place them in the trash or take to the landfill. If done when plants are small, it results in less bulk. Repeat monthly and follow up in the fall with herbicide treatment. Do not pull established plants because they will resprout from root fragments.

Use all chemicals according to the manufacturer's label. The label will provide specific instructions including allowed sites, application methods, rates, storage, re-entry requirements and personal protective equipment. No specific recommendation or endorsement is made or implied by listing the above methods or products. 9/2021