



Cypress Spurge

Euphorbia cyparissias



Photo: The Nature Conservancy



Photo: William S. Justice @ USDA-NRCS
PLANTS Database



Photo: Min. Ag & Food, Ontario, Can

Cypress spurge	
General	Spurge family (Euphorbiaceae) Introduced from Europe Has been sold as an ornamental Colorado List A - Eradication required
Common names	Squib-Knocket Welcome-To-Our-Home Graveyard-Moss Quack-Salver's-Spurg
Habitat	Herbaceous Perennial Dry sandy soil In pastures, graveyards, along road ways, gardens

PLANT	
Vegetation	4 to 32 inches tall Stems are smooth with green to yellowish green foliage Plant has a milky sap that is a skin irritant Leaves are narrow and linear approximately 1/2 to 1 1/4 inches long and 1/8 inch wide
Roots	Deep vertical roots Horizontal roots produce colonies

Flower	March-July Yellow-green bracts surround the inconspicuous flowers Turn bright orange-red in early summer
Seed	Seed thrown up to 15 feet from exploding capsule
Seedling	Seedling leaves similar in shape to mature leaves except smaller Upper surface covered with white powdery granules
Reproduction	Seed Lateral root buds

CONTROL			
BIOLOGICAL	None		
CHEMICAL	When actively growing	Plateau Dicamba (Banvel, Veteran) Tordon* (Restricted Use) Glyphosate - Spot treatment only (RoundUp, Rodeo)	Spring or Fall
CULTURAL	Prevention Intensive tilling combined with herbicide treatment		
MECHANICAL			
Burning	N/A		
Grazing	N/A		
Mowing	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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