



# Troublesome Weeds of New Mexico

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Jamshid Ashigh, James Wanstall and Frank Sholedice



College of Agricultural, Consumer  
and Environmental Sciences  
Cooperative Extension Service



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Las Cruces, New Mexico  
2010

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# New Mexico Noxious Weed List

Updated April 2009

The following weeds have been selected by the New Mexico Department of Agriculture to be targeted as noxious weeds for control or eradication pursuant to the Noxious Weed Management Act of 1998. This list does not include every plant species with the potential to negatively affect the state's environment or economy.

## Class A

Class A species are currently not present in New Mexico, or have limited distribution. Preventing new infestations of these species and eradicating existing infestations are the highest priorities.

### Common name

Alfombrilla  
Black henbane  
Camelthorn  
Canada thistle  
Dalmation toadflax  
Diffuse knapweed  
Dyer's woad  
Eurasian watermilfoil  
Giant salvinia  
Hoary cress  
Hydrilla  
Leafy spurge  
Oxeye daisy  
Parrotfeather  
Purple loosestrife  
Purple starthistle  
Ravennagrass  
Scotch thistle  
Spotted knapweed  
Yellow starthistle  
Yellow toadflax

### Scientific name

*Drymaria arenariodes*  
*Hyoscyamus niger*  
*Alhagi maurorum*  
*Cirsium arvense*  
*Linaria dalmatica*  
*Centaurea diffusa*  
*Isatis tinctoria*  
*Myriophyllum spicatum*  
*Salvinia molesta*  
*Cardaria* spp.  
*Hydrilla verticillata*  
*Euphorbia esula*  
*Leucanthemum vulgare*  
*Myriophyllum aquaticum*  
*Lythrum salicaria*  
*Centaurea calcitrapa*  
*Saccharum ravennae*  
*Onopordum acanthium*  
*Centaurea biebersteinii*  
*Centaurea solstitialis*  
*Linaria vulgaris*

## Class B

Class B species are limited to portions of the state. In areas with severe infestations, management should be designed to contain the infestation and stop any further spread.

### Common name

African rue  
Chicory  
Common teasel  
Halogeton  
Malta starthistle  
Musk thistle  
Perennial pepperweed  
Poison hemlock  
Russian knapweed  
Tree of heaven

### Scientific name

*Peganum harmala*  
*Cichorium intybus*  
*Dipsacus fullonum*  
*Halogeton glomeratus*  
*Centaurea melitensis*  
*Carduus nutans*  
*Lepidium latifolium*  
*Conium maculatum*  
*Acroptilon repens*  
*Ailanthus altissima*

## Class C

Class C species are widespread in the state. Management decisions for these species should be determined at the local level, based on feasibility of control and level of infestation.

### Common name

Bull thistle  
Cheatgrass  
Jointed goatgrass  
Russian olive  
Saltcedar  
Siberian elm

### Scientific name

*Cirsium vulgare*  
*Bromus tectorum*  
*Aegilops cylindrica*  
*Elaeagnus angustifolia*  
*Tamarix* spp.  
*Ulmus pumila*

## Watch List

Watch List species are of concern in the state and have the potential to become problematic. More data are needed to determine if these species should be listed. When these species are encountered, please document their location and contact appropriate authorities.

### Common name

Crimson fountaingrass  
Giant cane  
Meadow knapweed  
Pampasgrass  
Quackgrass  
Sahara mustard  
Spiny cocklebur  
Wall rocket

### Scientific name

*Pennisetum setaceum*  
*Arundo donax*  
*Centaurea pratensis*  
*Cortaderia selloana*  
*Elytrigia repens*  
*Brassica tournefortii*  
*Xanthium spinosum*  
*Diploaxis tenuifolia*

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**I**nvasive weeds pose a serious and increasing threat to New Mexico's environment and economy. These weeds are tough competitors and can spread rapidly, creating large stands that can persist for many years in the environment and cause many negative impacts to our ecosystems.

While these impacts are species-specific, weeds have been documented to cause the following: displacement of native plants and animals, increased fire danger, increased soil erosion, increased flood severity, increased soil salinity, and decreased water quality. In agricultural and rangeland settings, these weeds can cause severe economic impacts by decreasing crop yields and lowering available forage for range animals, resulting in a decrease in livestock health.

This booklet focuses on helping land managers, farmers, homeowners, recreationists, and others identify troublesome weeds found in New Mexico because early detection is critical to effective weed management. Forty-five plant species are included in this booklet with brief descriptions, photographs, information on what areas they invade, where they are currently located in New Mexico, and some general information on management. We urge readers to consult other resources and local experts to help in determining the most appropriate management methods for their areas. Early detection and rapid response to new infestations can save many dollars and help maintain the health, diversity, and functionality of our ecosystems.

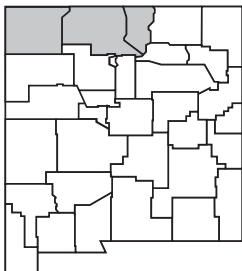
**Black henbane / *Hyoscyamus niger***



## **Class A**

### **Black henbane / *Hyoscyamus niger***

Annual or biennial that infests disturbed, open areas such as fields, roadsides, and waste areas; grows best in sandy, well drained soils. All parts of the plant are toxic to humans and livestock if ingested, and it is often described as having a foul odor.



**Also Known As:** Cassilata, henbell, insane root, Jupiter's bean

**Stems/Leaves:** Stems (1-3 ft tall) have some branching and are densely covered with long hairs; leaves (2-8 in. long, up to 6 in. wide) alternate, gray-green, oblong or lanceolate, densely covered with sticky hairs, with toothed or lobed margins

**Flowers:** Five fused petals (0.8-1.2 in. long) are yellow-green in color with conspicuous purple veins and a purple throat; seeds found in green, oblong pods (0.5-1.2 in. long) that are covered with long hairs, with an opening at one end that resembles a five-pointed crown

**Roots:** Taproot

**Reproduction:** Seed; successful management prevents seed production/spread

#### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Physical removal and mowing are effective if performed before seeds are produced
- Burning can be used to kill plants bearing seed
- Herbicides are effective

**Bull thistle / *Cirsium vulgare***



## **Class C**

### **Bull thistle / *Cirsium vulgare***

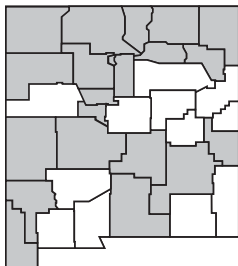
Biennial (perennial under some conditions) that infests disturbed areas such as ditches, roadsides, streams, and fences.

#### **Also Known As:**

Bur thistle, common thistle, spear thistle

**Stems/Leaves:** Several to many branches (1-6 ft tall);

stems and shoots have broad, prickly wings and some fine hairs; leaves (3-12 in. long) are dark green, lobed or toothed, often hairy, with spines (0.2-0.6 in. long) along the margins; stem leaves are more lobed and spiny than basal leaves



**Flowers:** Flower heads (1.5-2 in. diameter, 1-2 in. long) found at end of each branch, gumdrop shaped or spherical, often covered with fine, cobweb-like hairs; flowers are purple, rarely white; below flowers are many long, stiff, yellow or green spiny bracts (1-1.5 in. long)

**Roots:** Taproot

**Reproduction:** Seed; successful management prevents seed production/spread

#### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Proper identification is important – can be confused with native thistles like threatened Sacramento Mountain thistle
- Mechanical removal should cut roots below soil surface and remove stems before flowering
- Herbicides are effective
- DO NOT mow during/after flowering to prevent seed dispersal
- DO NOT use fire – it creates favorable conditions for growth

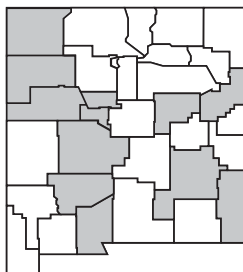
**Camelthorn / *Alhagi maurorum***



## Class A

### Camelthorn / *Alhagi maurorum*

Herbaceous perennial that infests a wide range of areas, particularly semi-arid areas along rivers and floodplains where plant communities are degraded, as well as disturbed areas such as roadsides, ditches, and fields.



#### Also Known As:

*Alhagi pseudoalhagi*

**Stems/Leaves:** Multiple green stems (1-4 ft tall) with fine branching; mature stems glabrous; narrow to oblong leaves (<1 in. long) alternate; stems and branches end in thorny spines (0.5-1.0 in. long)

**Flowers:** Pea-like flowers with pink, purple, or white petals (0.3-0.4 in. long) found on short racemes of 1-8 flowers; produces reddish-brown fruit pods (0.4-1.2 in. long) with distinct restrictions around seeds

**Roots:** Extensive creeping perennial root system; semi-woody

**Reproduction:** Vegetative or seed reproduction; root reproduction is most common, though seeds can remain viable for years

#### Management Do's and Don'ts

- Preventing infestations and maintaining a healthy plant community are the best management methods
- Hand removal is effective if most of the root system can be removed
- Herbicides are effective
- Mechanical removal techniques spread root fragments and are ineffective



**Canada thistle / *Cirsium arvense***



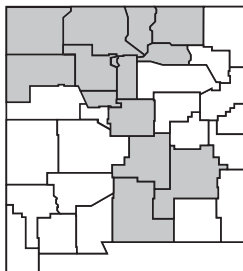
## Class A

### Canada thistle / *Cirsium arvense*

Perennial that infests disturbed sites such as roadsides and open fields, as well as hillsides, open forests, pastures, rangeland, crop fields, stream banks, and other riparian areas.

#### Also Known As:

Corn thistle, creeping thistle



#### Stems/Leaves:

Stems (1-4 ft tall) are nearly glabrous, branched near top, green to brown; leaves (2-8 in. long) are green, oblong to lanceolate; leaf margins are wavy, lobed, or toothed with prickly spines (0.1-0.25 in. long)

**Flowers:** Produces flower heads in clusters; individual heads (0.5 in. diameter, 0.5-1.5 in. long) are oval to bell-shaped, with dark-tipped bracts below flowers; flowers are pink, purple, or white

**Roots:** Extensive creeping perennial root system

**Reproduction:** Creeping perennial roots and seed reproduction

#### Management Do's and Don'ts

- Early detection and eradication are the most effective control methods
- Repeated cultivation, mowing (before seed production), or hand removal is effective
- Herbicides are effective
- Maintaining a healthy plant community can prevent establishment and slow spread

**Common teasel**  
*Dipsacus fullonum*



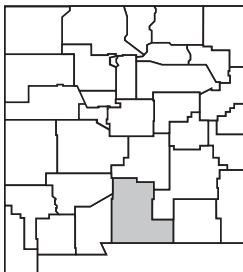
## **Class B**

### **Common teasel**

#### ***Dipsacus fullonum***

Biennial but occasionally short-lived perennial that infests disturbed areas such as fields, roadsides, waste grounds, and ditches.

**Also Known As:** Wild teasel, card thistle, Fuller's teasel, Venus-cup



**Stems/Leaves:** Flowering stems (up to 6 ft) develop during the second season and branch near the upper portion; stems with several angled rows of downward prickles; basal rosette leaves are oblanceolate and usually die early in the second season; stem leaves are sessile with lanceolate shape and opposite arrangements; all leaves have short, stiff prickles on the lower midvein

**Flowers:** Flower heads (1.25-4 in. long) with dense white to purple flowers that bloom in a circular pattern around the ovoid to cylindrical heads; bracts at the base of the heads are prickly and generally longer than the heads; individual flowers (0.4-0.6 in. long) have spine-like bractlets

**Roots:** Taproot

**Reproduction:** Seed

#### **Management Do's and Don't's**

- Mowing the flowering stems prior to seed production is effective
- Cover crops will help reduce the establishment
- Herbicides are effective

**Crimson fountaingrass**  
*Pennisetum setaceum*



## Watch List

### Crimson fountaingrass

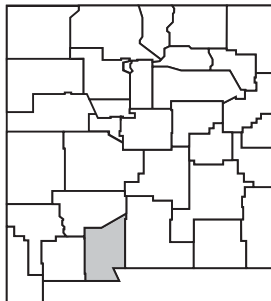
*Pennisetum setaceum*

Tufted perennial grass that infests disturbed areas such as ditches, roadsides, and urban areas, as well as desert shrubland.

#### Also Known As:

Fountaingrass, tender fountaingrass

**Stems/Leaves:** Round stems (up to 3.5 ft tall) form dense clumps; leaves (8-26 in. long, 0.08-0.16 in. wide) are flat, sometimes with a keeled midvein; leaf margins have long, white hairs, especially near sheaths; sheaths are closed and extend 1.5-3 in. down stem



**Flowers:** Tufted, bristly panicles (3-12 in. long, 1.5-2 in. wide) are pink to purple and may droop

**Roots:** Deep, fibrous root system

**Reproduction:** Seed; successful management prevents seed production/spread

#### Management Do's and Don'ts

- Prevention and early detection are the most effective control methods
- Hand removal of individual plants is most effective in preventing new infestations
- Herbicides are effective
- Fire is NOT effective

**Diffuse knapweed**  
*Centaurea diffusa*

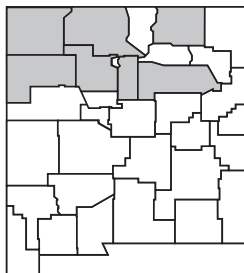


## **Class A**

### **Diffuse knapweed**

#### ***Centaurea diffusa***

Herbaceous biennial (sometimes annual or short-lived perennial) that tolerates a wide range of conditions, but mostly infests disturbed areas such as roadsides, ditches, open fields, semi-arid deserts, rangelands, and grasslands.



#### **Also Known As:**

White knapweed

**Stems/Leaves:** Numerous branching, bushy stems (1-3 ft tall) are green to brown; leaves (4-8 in. long) alternate, often covered with grayish hairs; lower leaves are deeply lobed; upper leaves are linear and entire, DO NOT form wings on stem

**Flowers:** Single flower head (0.5 in. long, 0.2 in. wide) at end of each branch with white flowers (sometimes rose to light purple); below flowers are several straw-colored bracts each with comb-like edges and a spiny tip

**Roots:** Taproot

**Reproduction:** Seed; successful management prevents seed production/spread

#### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Mechanical removal must remove at least 3-4 in. of root crown
- Thirteen biological control agents have been introduced
- Herbicides are effective with proper timing
- Mow plants at late bud or early bloom to reduce seed production
- Fire is NOT effective



**Eurasian watermilfoil**  
***Myriophyllum spicatum***

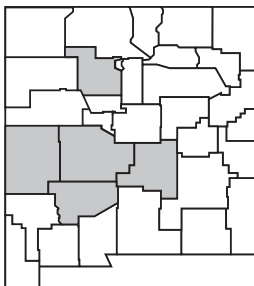


## **Class A**

### **Eurasian watermilfoil**

#### ***Myriophyllum spicatum***

Aquatic perennial that infests riparian areas such as lakes, ponds, rivers, streams, and irrigation ditches; usually found in still or slow-moving water, but occasionally in fast-moving streams or rivers.



**Also Known As:** Spike watermilfoil

#### **Stems/Leaves:**

Submersed stems (up to 15 ft long) branched near water surface, green, brown, or reddish; leaves (0.5-1.5 in. long) normally 4-whorled, pinnate-divided, with opposite pairs of narrow lobes (0.4 in. long), usually more than 14 pairs per leaf; lobes are linear and green to brown

**Flowers:** Four pinkish petals or sepals (0.04-0.12 in. long) as well as small, bract-like leaves (0.04-0.12 in. long); numerous small flowers found on erect or emerged inflorescence (1.6-3.2 in. long)

**Roots:** Numerous creeping, branched rhizomes that form large, thick surface or subsurface mats

**Reproduction:** Vegetative reproduction from rhizomes, stem fragments, or buds on leaf axils

#### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Repeated mechanical removal is effective at controlling density, but stem fragments may escape and form new infestations
- Removing stem fragments and plant parts from boats, lines, and fishing gear can help prevent spread of infestations
- Herbicides are effective

**Meadow knapweed**  
*Centaurea pratensis*



## Watch List

### Meadow knapweed

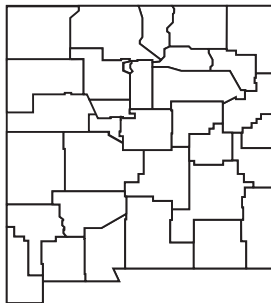
#### *Centaurea pratensis*

Perennial that infests rangeland, pastures, grasslands, meadows, and open forests.

#### Also Known As:

Bull clover

**Stems/Leaves:** Several branching stems (1.5-3.3 ft tall); basal leaves (up to 6 in. long, 1.25 in. wide) are tapered at both ends, lower stem leaves are lanceolate with entire or shallow lobed margins, upper stem leaves are smaller and entire



**Flowers:** Single flower head (0.75 in. diameter) grows at the end of each branch, oval or globe shaped, with light or dark brown to black papery bracts; flowers are purple or rose, sometimes white

**Roots:** Taproot

**Reproduction:** Perennial root crown and seed

#### Management Do's and Don'ts

- Physical removal and cultivation are effective
- Herbicides are effective
- Seed head gall fly, *Urophora quadrifasciata*, is an introduced biological control

**Musk thistle / *Carduus nutans***



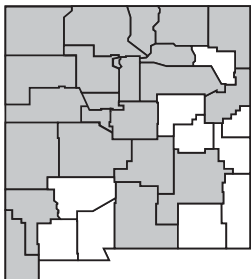
## **Class B**

### **Musk thistle / *Carduus nutans***

Biennial that typically infests disturbed open areas, waste areas, stream banks, ditches, and roadsides.

**Also Known As:** Nodding thistle, plumeless thistle

**Stems/Leaves:** Stems (2-6 ft tall) have some branching, sometimes densely hairy, with narrow wings formed by leaf bases; leaves (4-15 in. long) are dark green with light green center, deeply lobed, with spiny margins



**Flowers:** Flower heads (1.5-3 in. diameter) mostly spherical, found at branch ends, and often droop; flowers are pink to purple in color, rarely white; below flowers are numerous green, purple, or straw-colored bracts (0.1-0.3 in. wide), often covered with cobweb-like hairs; bracts are usually lanceolate

**Roots:** Taproot

**Reproduction:** Seed; successful management prevents seed production/spread

#### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Mechanical removal should cut roots below soil surface and remove stems before flowering
- Herbicides are effective
- Several biological controls exist but none are legal in NM
- DO NOT use fire – it creates favorable conditions for growth
- DO NOT mow during/after flowering to prevent seed dispersal; mow plants in late bud or early bloom to reduce seed production

**Purple loosestrife**  
***Lythrum salicaria***



## **Class A**

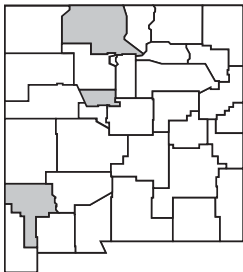
### **Purple loosestrife**

#### ***Lythrum salicaria***

Perennial found in wetlands along rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, floodplains, reservoirs and ditches, as well as in some disturbed areas.

**Also Known As:** Bouquet violet, purple lythrum

**Stems/Leaves:** Multiple branched stems (1-6 ft tall) are green to purple or brown, 4-5 sided, often covered with small hairs; plants may form a clump or bush; leaves (2-6 in. long) are narrow or lanceolate with smooth margins, attach directly to stem in opposite or whorled arrangement



**Flowers:** Found on elongated racemes; 5-7 pinkish-purple petals (<0.5 in. long) surrounding a yellow center

**Roots:** Taproot with locally spreading perennial roots

**Reproduction:** Stem fragments or seed reproduction, but mostly through seed

#### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Prevention and early detection are the most effective control methods
- Physical removal before flowering for single plants/small infestations
- Several effective biological control agents have been introduced
- Herbicides are effective
- DO NOT MOW



**Purple starthistle**  
***Centaurea calcitrapa***



## **Class A**

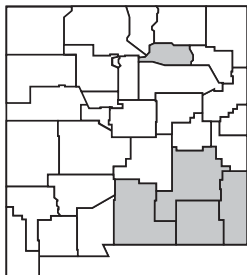
### **Purple starthistle**

#### ***Centaurea calcitrapa***

Annual to perennial that infests open fields, roadsides, grasslands, rangelands, and especially disturbed areas; also found in fertile or alluvial soils.

#### **Also Known As:**

Red starthistle



**Stems/Leaves:** Numerous, highly branched stems (up to 4 ft tall); plants may form clumps or bushes; leaves (4-8 in. long) alternate, covered with long, wooly hairs; lower leaves deeply lobed; upper leaves pinnate-divided with narrow leaflets, DO NOT form wings on upper stems

**Flowers:** Oval shaped flower heads (0.75-1 in. long) borne on leafy stems; flowers are deep purple to lavender; below flowers are several stiff, straw-colored spines (0.4-1 in. long)

**Roots:** Taproot

**Reproduction:** Seed; successful management prevents seed production/spread

#### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Physical removal before seed production for single plants/small infestations
- Herbicides are effective
- DO NOT MOW

**Russian knapweed**  
*Acroptilon repens*



## **Class B**

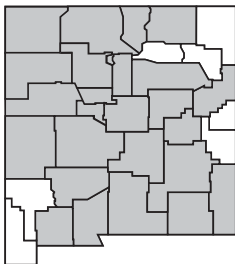
### **Russian knapweed**

#### ***Acroptilon repens***

Herbaceous perennial that invades pastures, degraded croplands, alfalfa fields, rangeland, roadsides, riparian areas, and irrigation ditches.

#### **Also Known As:**

Hardheads, Russian starthistle, Turkistan thistle



#### **Stems/Leaves:**

Numerous branching stems (1-3 ft tall); lower leaves (1.5-4 in. long) alternate and have lobed or wavy margins; upper leaves are linear or lanceolate; leaves are green to light green and DO NOT form wings on stems; leaves and stems covered with dense gray hairs

**Flowers:** Flower heads (0.25-0.5 in. diameter) round or hemispheric with pink, lavender, or white flowers; below flowers are numerous green, papery bracts

**Roots:** Extensive creeping root system; roots have a brown to black scaly appearance, especially near soil surface

**Reproduction:** Vegetative and seed reproduction; most reproduction is from buds on creeping perennial root system

#### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Prevention and early detection are essential; large infestations are extremely difficult to control
- Prevention and maintenance of a healthy plant community are the best management methods
- Herbicides are effective

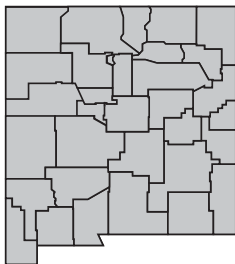
## **Saltcedar / *Tamarix* spp.**



## Class C

### Saltcedar / *Tamarix* spp.

Small shrubs or trees that infest riparian areas such as rivers, streams, lake and pond shores, and irrigation ditches, as well as roadsides and rangeland.



#### Also Known As:

Tamarisk, tamarix

**Stems/Leaves:** One or more trunks (5-25 ft tall) may be covered with rough bark; numerous dense, thin, branching stems and twigs have smooth, reddish-brown bark; leaves (0.06-0.14 in. long) small and scale-like, alternate, oval to lanceolate, often overlapping; green, gray-green, or blue-green in color

**Flowers:** Produces long racemes (0.12-0.2 in. wide, several in. long) with numerous small flowers; flowers have four to five sepals or petals that are white to dark pink in color

**Roots:** Taproot with numerous spreading lateral roots

**Reproduction:** Root crown or seed reproduction, but primarily through seed

#### Management Do's and Don'ts

- Physical removal is only effective if the root crown is removed
- Herbicides are effective, but above-ground tissue must be removed after treatment
- Individual tree methods should be utilized in low density stands
- Established native vegetation can out-compete saltcedar seedlings

**Scotch thistle**  
***Onopordum acanthium***



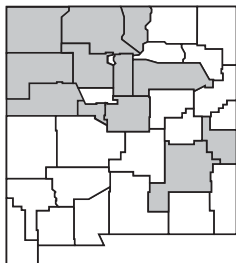
## **Class A**

### **Scotch thistle**

#### ***Onopordum acanthium***

Biennial that infests disturbed sites such as roadsides, ditches, and open fields, as well as pastures, rangelands, grasslands, riparian areas, and irrigation ditches.

**Also Known As:** Cotton thistle, heraldic thistle, jackass thistle, Queen Mary's thistle, wooly thistle, winged thistle



**Stems/Leaves:** Stems (4-12 ft tall) are branched near the top, covered with wooly, gray hairs, and have conspicuous broad, spiny wings along the entire stem; leaves (4-20 in. long, 0.8-1.2 in. wide) are oblong, covered with wooly, gray hairs, margins are toothed or lobed with sharp, stiff spines

**Flowers:** Flower heads (up to 2 in. diameter) are round or hemispherical, covered with numerous green to purple or straw-colored, overlapping, spiny bracts (0.2 in. long or less), often with wooly hairs; flowers are white to purple

**Roots:** Taproot

**Reproduction:** Seed; successful management prevents seed production/spread

#### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Physical removal before seed production is effective for small infestations
- Minimizing open areas and establishing competitive plants, especially perennial grasses, can discourage invasion
- Herbicides are effective



**Spotted knapweed**  
***Centaurea biebersteinii***

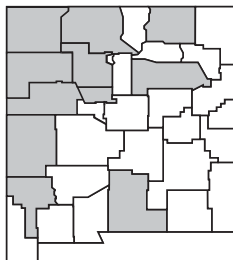


## Class A

### Spotted knapweed

#### *Centaurea biebersteinii*

Herbaceous biennial to short-lived perennial that tolerates a wide range of conditions, but mostly infests disturbed areas such as roadsides, ditches, open fields, semi-arid deserts, rangelands, and grasslands.



#### Also Known As:

*Centaurea maculosa*

**Stems/Leaves:** Numerous branching stems (up to 4 ft tall); leaves (4-8 in. long) alternate, often covered with grayish hairs; lower leaves deeply lobed; upper leaves pinnate-divided with narrow, entire leaflets; upper leaves DO NOT form wings on stems

**Flowers:** Single flower head (0.4-0.5 in. long, 0.3-0.5 in. wide) at end of each branch; flowers usually pinkish-purple, sometimes light purple to white; below flowers are green bracts, each with a dark brown to black comb-like tip

**Roots:** Taproot

**Reproduction:** Seed; successful management prevents seed production/spread

#### Management Do's and Don'ts

- Preventing seed dispersal and establishing competitive vegetation are essential
- Mechanical removal must remove at least 3-4 in. of root crown
- Thirteen biological control agents have been introduced
- Herbicides are effective
- Fire is NOT effective

**Dalmatian toadflax**  
*Linaria dalmatica*



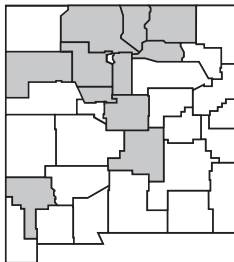
## **Class A**

### **Dalmatian toadflax**

#### ***Linaria dalmatica***

Herbaceous perennial that invades disturbed areas along roadsides, ditches, abandoned lots and fields, rangelands, riparian communities, and crop fields.

**Also Known As:** Broad-leaf toadflax, wild snapdragon



**Stems/Leaves:** Stems (up to 4 ft tall) are smooth and waxy at the base, herbaceous and branching near the top; leaves (0.5-2.3 in. long) alternate and clasp stem; waxy, bluish-green in color; oval, heart shaped, or lanceolate

**Flowers:** Resemble snapdragons; petals are 0.75-1.5 in. long; flowers are two-lipped, yellow, with an orange, bearded throat and a long spur

**Roots:** Taproot and creeping perennial roots

**Reproduction:** Vegetative and seed reproduction; most new populations are established by seed

#### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Maintenance of a healthy plant community and prevention are the best management methods
- Hand pull small infestations
- Eight biological control agents have been approved for use
- Herbicides are effective
- Fire and mowing are NOT effective control methods

**Dyers woad**  
***Isatis tinctoria***

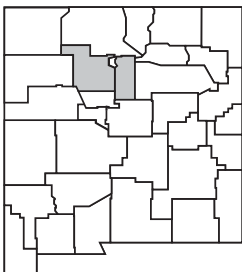


## **Class A**

### **Dyers woad**

### ***Isatis tinctoria***

Annual, biennial, or short-lived perennial that infests gravel pits, roadsides, trails, railroads, and other disturbed areas with sandy or rocky soil; also infests hay and grain fields.



#### **Also Known As:**

Marlahan mustard

#### **Stems/Leaves:** Stems

(1-4 ft long) are highly branched near top; leaves (1.5-7 in. long, 0.4-1.5 in. wide) are green to blue-green in color, lanceolate, clasp the stem, and have a conspicuous cream colored midvein from base to tip

**Flowers:** Small, bright yellow flowers found in clustered inflorescences on upper stems, four petals (0.125 in. long) per flower; seed pods (0.375 in. long, 0.125 in. diameter) are flattened, teardrop shaped, suspended from a small stalk; immature pods are green while mature pods are dark purplish-brown to black

**Roots:** Taproot

**Reproduction:** Seed; successful management prevents seed production/spread

#### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Mechanical removal should remove roots at least 3-4 in. below soil
- Mowing at early- to mid-flower stage PRIOR TO seed formation is effective
- Herbicides are effective

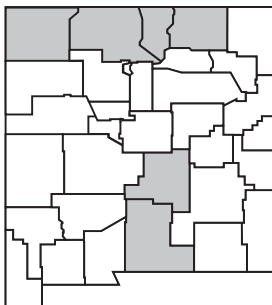
**Leafy spurge / *Euphorbia esula***



## **Class A**

### **Leafy spurge / *Euphorbia esula***

Herbaceous perennial that is adapted to many soil types and habitats; typically invades disturbed and undisturbed areas such as pastures, rangelands, abandoned croplands, roadsides, wetlands, woodlands, floodplains, riparian areas, mountain ridges, and prairies; its milky sap may cause skin and eye irritation in humans and be toxic to cattle if ingested in large quantities.



**Also Known As:** Faitours-grass, wolf's milk

**Stems/Leaves:** Stems (1-3 ft tall) are woody at the base, branched at top, glabrous, with milky sap; leaves (1-4 in. long) are linear to oblong in shape, mostly alternate, with smooth margins; stems and leaves are pale blue-green

**Flowers:** Produces showy, green to yellow, heart- or kidney-shaped bracts at ends of stems; flowers form within bracts with one three-chambered ovary on top of 11-21 smaller, 5-sepaled male flowers

**Roots:** Extensive creeping perennial root system

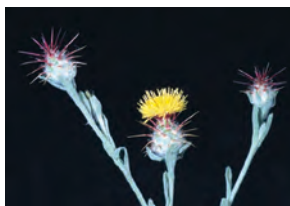
**Reproduction:** Perennial roots and seed reproduction

#### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Maintenance of a healthy plant community and prevention are the best management methods
- Physical removal is largely ineffective
- Numerous effective biological control agents have been introduced
- Herbicides are effective



**Malta starthistle**  
*Centaurea melitensis*



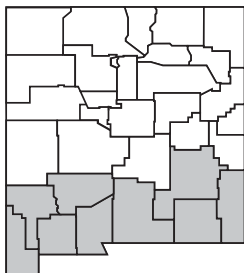
## **Class B**

### **Malta starthistle**

#### ***Centaurea melitensis***

Annual (occasionally biennial) that infests disturbed areas such as roadsides and open fields, as well as rangelands, grasslands, open woodlands, pastures, and crop fields.

**Also Known As:** Tocolote, Maltese starthistle



**Stems/Leaves:** Stiff, wiry stems (1-3 ft tall) often branched; leaves (0.8-6 in. long) are green to blue-green, covered with fine hairs; basal leaves are oval to linear, entire to lobed margins; stem leaves are narrow, entire to wavy margins, with bases that extend down the stem creating wings (0.12 in. wide)

**Flowers:** Flower heads (0.4-0.8 in. diameter) found singly or in groups of 2-3 at ends of stems, oval in shape, with yellow flowers; stiff purple or brown bracts (0.2-0.6 in. long) are found beneath flowers

**Roots:** Taproot

**Reproduction:** Seed; successful management prevents seed production/spread

#### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Prevention and early detection are the most effective control methods
- Frequent cultivation is effective
- Mow plants in late bud or early bloom to reduce seed production
- Burning is effective if done before seed production
- Herbicides are effective

**Russian olive**  
***Elaeagnus angustifolia***

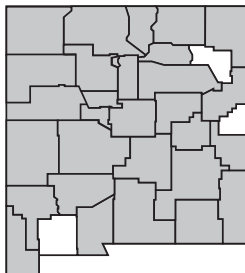


## **Class C**

### **Russian olive**

#### ***Elaeagnus angustifolia***

A perennial tree or large shrub that infests grasslands, rangelands, woodlands, desert shrubland, and especially riparian areas, as well as disturbed areas such as roadsides, ditches, and open fields.



**Stems/Leaves:** One to six main stems or trunks (16-40 ft tall, 4-20 in. thick) with gray or brown bark, sometimes coarse or scaly; leaves (0.8-4 in. long, 0.5-1.5 in. wide) are alternate, entire, oblong to linear or lanceolate, dull to gray-green in color with a silvery underside

**Flowers:** Flowers (0.12-0.5 in. long) grow in clusters at branch ends, have four yellow to white petals, and are fragrant

**Roots:** Extensive root system with a root crown and creeping perennial roots

**Reproduction:** From root crown, creeping perennial roots, or seed; most reproduction and spread occurs through seeds and creeping perennial roots

#### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Prevention and early detection are the most effective control methods
- Mowing saplings and cutting or removing mature trees are all effective controls if repeated often
- Herbicides are somewhat effective

**Sahara mustard**  
***Brassica tournefortii***



## Watch List

### Sahara mustard

*Brassica tournefortii*

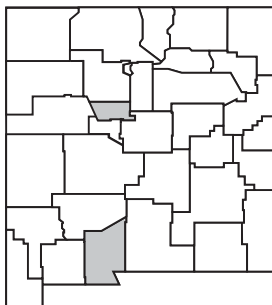
Short-lived annual that invades disturbed, arid areas; typically found along roadsides.

#### Also Known As:

Wild turnip, African or Asian mustard

#### Stems/Leaves:

Branching stems (4 in.-3 ft tall); large basal leaves (3-12 in. long) pinnate-divided with 6-14 pairs of leaflets with toothed margins; upper stem leaves bract-like; stems and leaf surfaces may be covered with simple hairs



**Flowers:** Small, pale yellow flowers with four petals (0.15-0.5 in. long, 0.1-0.3 in. wide); seed pods (siliques) are 1.5-2.5 in. long, narrow, with a pronounced beak at the end; seed pods constrict around seeds and appear beaded

**Roots:** Taproot

**Reproduction:** Seed; successful management prevents seed production/spread

#### Management Do's and Don'ts

- Hand pulling or hoeing is effective if repeated several times a year
- Mowing is effective if all leaf material is destroyed
- Herbicides are effective
- Fire is NOT effective

**Wall rocket / *Diplotaxis tenuifolia***



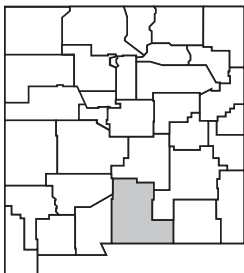
## Watch List

### Wall rocket / *Diplotaxis tenuifolia*

Perennial plant that infests disturbed areas such as fields, wastelands, and roadsides.

**Also Known As:** Perennial wall rocket, sand rocket, slimleaf wall rocket

**Stems/Leaves:** Stems (4 ft tall) woody at the base, glabrous, erect, with many branches and leafy throughout; leaves with lobes along the length of the narrow leaf blade, bluish to dark green, short-stalked, slender; upper leaves are mostly unlobed



**Flowers:** Flowers (0.6-0.8 in. across) on erect pedicles with 4 green, glabrous sepals and 4 yellow, clawed petals that are arranged in a shape of a cross

**Roots:** Deep taproot

**Reproduction:** Seed

#### Management Do's and Don'ts

- Frequent hand removal is effective, especially if the root crown is removed
- Herbicides are effective



**Yellow starthistle**  
*Centaurea solstitialis*



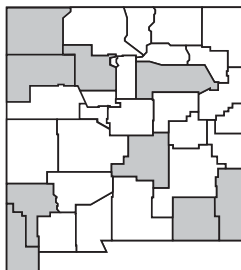
## Class A

### Yellow starthistle

### *Centaurea solstitialis*

Annual (occasionally biennial) that infests disturbed areas such as roadsides and open fields, as well as rangelands, grasslands, open woodlands, pastures, and crop fields. Yellow starthistle is toxic to horses if consumed.

**Also Known As:** Golden starthistle, yellow cockspur, St. Barnaby's thistle



**Stems/Leaves:** Stiff, wiry stems (1-6 ft tall) are often branched; leaves (1.5-6 in. long) are blue- to gray-green, densely covered with fine, cotton-like hairs, alternate, linear to oblong in shape with smooth, toothed, or lobed margins; leaf bases extend down the stem creating wings (up to 0.2 in. wide)

**Flowers:** Flower heads (0.5-1.5 in. diameter) found singly at stem ends, oval or round with a yellow flower; several stiff, sharp, straw colored bracts (0.75 in. long) are found beneath the flower

**Roots:** Taproot

**Reproduction:** Seed; successful management prevents seed production/spread

### Management Do's and Don'ts

- Prevention and maintenance of a healthy plant community are the best management methods
- Frequent cultivation is effective
- Mow plants in late bud or early bloom to reduce seed production
- Burning is effective if done before seed production
- Numerous effective biological control agents have been introduced
- Herbicides are effective

**Yellow toadflax / *Linaria vulgaris***

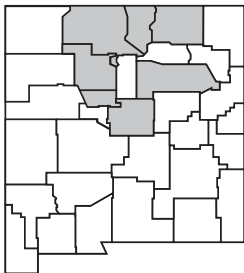


## **Class A**

### **Yellow toadflax / *Linaria vulgaris***

Herbaceous perennial that aggressively invades disturbed communities such as roadsides, graded areas, abandoned lots, rangelands, and riparian communities.

**Also Known As:** Butter and eggs, wild snapdragon, common toadflax



**Stems/Leaves:** Stems (1-3 ft tall) sometimes hairy, often branched near top, woody at the base and herbaceous at the top; leaves (1-2.5 in. long, 0.1-0.2 in. wide) are pale green, soft, linear in shape, and DO NOT clasp stem

**Flowers:** Found in racemes at ends of stems; flowers (0.5-1.5 in long) are bright yellow or white, snapdragon-like with an orange bearded throat and a yellow spur

**Roots:** Extensive creeping perennial root system

**Reproduction:** Creeping perennial roots and seed reproduction

#### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Maintenance of a healthy plant community and prevention are the best management methods
- Physical removal is effective if continually repeated for 5-15 years to deplete seed bank
- Revegetation with competitive species is effective
- Eight biological control agents have been approved for use
- Herbicides are effective

**African rue / *Peganum harmala***

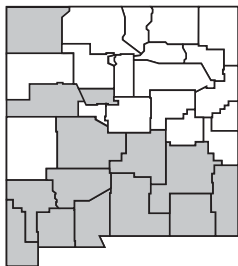


## **Class B**

### **African rue / *Peganum harmala***

Perennial that infests disturbed areas such as roadsides, open fields, and ditches, as well as arid and semi-arid desert areas. All parts of the plant are toxic to humans and livestock if ingested.

**Also Known As:** Harmal, isband, ozallaik, ruin weed



**Stems/Leaves:** Numerous dense, branching stems (not more than 1-1.5 ft tall); leaves (0.8-2 in. long) are bright green, fleshy, unevenly branched, linear, and glabrous

**Flowers:** Five white, oblong petals (0.5 in. long); five green sepals (0.5 in. long) that resemble leaves are found below each flower; flowers grow at leaf axils along stem; produces round, three-chambered seed pods (0.25-0.6 in. diameter) green, orange, or brown in color

**Roots:** Woody taproot with creeping lateral roots that can develop shoot buds

**Reproduction:** Root crown, perennial roots, or seed reproduction; reproduces primarily through seed

#### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Prevention and early detection are the most effective control methods
- Physical removal is effective if most or all of the root system is removed
- Herbicides are effective

**Alfombrilla / *Drymaria arenarioides***

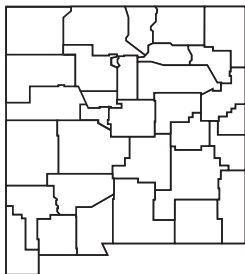


## **Class A**

### **Alfombrilla**

#### ***Drymaria arenarioides***

Perennial that infests dry areas, acid soils, rangelands, hills, and plains. Alfombrilla is highly toxic to livestock; it is native to northwestern Mexico and is spreading northward.



#### **Also Known As:**

Lightningweed, sandwort  
drymary

#### **Stems/Leaves:**

Stems (up to 8 in. long) sprawling to erect, branching mostly at the base; leaves (0.2-0.6 in. long, 0.04-0.12 in. wide) opposite, linear to oblong, petioles about 0.04 in. long and stipulate with 2 stipules per node

**Flowers:** Five distinct white sepals (0.06-0.2 in. long), lanceolate to oblong; five white petals are narrow; seeds are brown, C-shaped, with ends touching (0.015-0.05 in. long, 0.015-0.03 in. wide) and a thick dorsal groove

**Roots:** Taproot

**Reproduction:** Seed

#### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Prevention and early detection are essential
- Physical removal before seed production is effective, especially if the root crown is removed



## Cheatgrass / *Bromus tectorum*

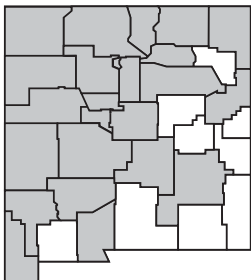


## Class C

### Cheatgrass / *Bromus tectorum*

Annual grass that infests disturbed areas such as roadsides, open fields, and ditches, as well as crop fields, rangelands, grasslands, and desert areas.

**Also Known As:** Downy or drooping brome, military grass, June grass, bronco grass



#### **Stems/Leaves:**

Narrow stems (1-24 in. long) often droop; leaves (several inches long, 0.05-0.25 in. wide) are green to purple with closed sheaths that extend at least halfway down the stem, with some long hairs on sheaths and leaf base

**Flowers:** Multiple, slightly flattened grass spikes (2.5-8.5 in. long) are found at the ends of thin stems and often droop; each spike has 4-8 seeds (0.3-0.5 in. long) and each seed is tipped with a stiff bristle (0.3-0.7 in. long); spikes and seeds are green to purple or red in color

**Roots:** Fibrous root system

**Reproduction:** Seed; successful management prevents seed production/spread

#### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Maintenance of a healthy plant community and prevention are the best management methods
- Burning before seed dispersal will destroy seed but may leave the site susceptible to re-invasion in following years
- Mowing within a week after flowering will reduce seed production
- Herbicides are effective

## **Giant cane / *Arundo donax***



## Watch List

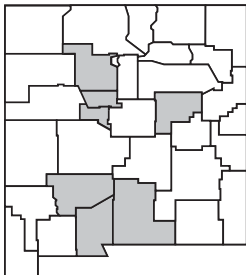
### Giant cane / *Arundo donax*

Bamboo-like perennial grass that infests riparian areas, floodplains, and irrigation ditches.

**Also Known As:** Giant reed, bamboo reed, elephant grass, wild cane

#### **Stems/Leaves:**

Semi-woody, inflexible stems (up to 24 ft tall, 0.5-1.5 in. thick) are hollow except at nodes, often branched at the base; leaves (1-3 ft long, 1-3 in. wide) are flat with rough margins, lanceolate with a sharp tip; leaf bases are broad, have long hairs, and clasp stem, often yellow to green in color



**Flowers:** Plume-like panicles (1-2 ft long) are cream to purple or brown in color, with numerous fine branches

**Roots:** Large creeping and branching rhizome system

**Reproduction:** Vegetative reproduction from rhizomes, root crowns, and stem fragments

#### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Physical removal must remove rhizomes and stem fragments
- Herbicides are effective, especially when used in conjunction with cutting

## Giant salvinia / *Salvinia molesta*



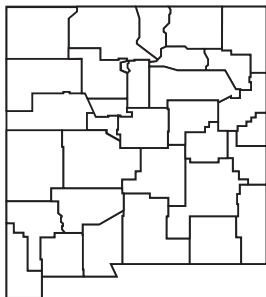
## **Class A**

### **Giant salvinia / *Salvinia molesta***

Perennial aquatic fern that infests riparian areas with a still or slow-moving flow such as lakes, ponds, reservoirs, rivers, streams, or irrigation ditches.

#### **Also Known As:**

Aquarium watermoss,  
butterfly fern, karibaweed,  
koi kandy



**Stems/Leaves:** Simple to heavily branched stems of varying length; leaves (1-2.5 in. long) may be on or below water surface and are flat, oval, surfaces densely covered with “eggbeater”-shaped hairs (0.08-0.16 in. long); submersed leaves are brown, pinnate-divided, and resemble roots

**Flowers:** Ferns lack true flowers; some submerged leaves can develop chains or groups of spores (0.04-0.12 in. diameter) that are not viable

**Roots:** Lacks true roots; submerged leaves look like fine, white root-like filaments (up to 0.8 in. long)

**Reproduction:** Vegetative reproduction from stem fragments

#### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Physical removal is effective if all plant fragments are removed
- Removing stem fragments and plant parts from boats, lines, and fishing gear can help prevent spread of infestations
- Herbicides are effective

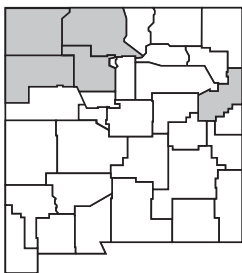
**Halogeton / *Halogeton glomeratus***



## **Class B**

### **Halogeton / *Halogeton glomeratus***

Annual that infests open, disturbed areas such as roadsides, open fields, and especially arid or semi-arid areas; is adapted to soils with high alkaline or salt content. All parts of the plant are toxic to livestock if ingested, especially sheep.



#### **Also Known As:**

Barilla, saltlover

**Stems/Leaves:** Stems (2-18 in. tall) are branched at the base, usually erect but sometimes spreading, often shaded purple or red; leaves (0.15-0.85 in. long, 0.04-0.08 in. wide) alternate, dull green to blue-green, look like fleshy cylinders with a stiff bristle (aprox. 0.05 in. long) at the tip

**Flowers:** Found in dense bunches at leaf axils; flowers lack true petals but have five sepals, each with a fan-like tip (0.08-0.12 in. long), greenish-yellow to red in color with conspicuous veins

**Roots:** Taproot

**Reproduction:** Seed; successful management prevents seed production/spread

#### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Physical removal is effective for small infestations
- Revegetation with desirable perennials is an effective management technique because halogeton is a poor competitor
- Herbicides are effective
- DO NOT use fire – it creates favorable conditions for growth



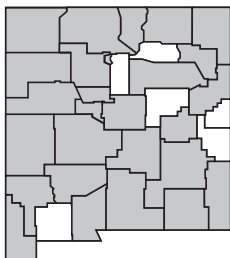
**Hoary cress / *Cardaria* spp.**



## Class A

### Hoary cress / *Cardaria* spp.

Perennial that infests moist areas such as irrigated pastures, rangelands, hay fields, and other crop fields; also infests disturbed sites such as roadsides, railways, and ditches. Three species occur in New Mexico: lens-podded hoary cress (*C. chalapensis*), heart-podded hoary cress (*C. draba*), and globe-podded hoary cress (*C. pubescens*); heart-podded is most common.



Some botanists place these plants in the genus *Lepidium* with the same species names (*L. chalapensis*, *L. draba*, *L. pubescens*).

**Also Known As:** Whitetop, little whitetop, hairy whitetop, *Lepidium* spp.

**Stems/Leaves:** Mostly single stems (6-24 in. tall) are hairy with some branching near top; leaves (0.5-4 in. long, 0.1-1.5 in. wide) are alternate, gray-green, oblong to narrow in shape, sometimes hairy, with entire to toothed margins; upper leaves clasp stem

**Flowers:** Numerous small, white, fragrant flowers with four petals (0.08-0.16 in. long) form rounded or flat-topped inflorescences at stem ends; seed pods (0.1-0.2 in. long and wide) are round, oval, or heart-shaped, light green to brown, with a short projection (0.04-0.08 in. long)

**Roots:** Extensive creeping perennial root system

**Reproduction:** Perennial roots and seed reproduction

### Management Do's and Don'ts

- Physical removal must remove root system
- Repeated cultivation 1-2 times per month for 2-4 years is effective
- Mowing at early flower growth stage may lower stem density and reduce seed production
- Herbicides are effective

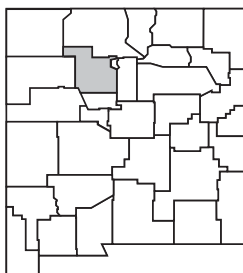
## **Hydrilla / *Hydrilla verticillata***



## **Class A**

### **Hydrilla / *Hydrilla verticillata***

Aquatic perennial that infests riparian areas with a still or slow-moving current such as lakes, ponds, reservoirs, rivers, streams, and irrigation ditches.



#### **Also Known As:**

Florida elodea, waterthyme

**Stems/Leaves:** Stems are green to brown, length varies with environmental conditions; leaves (0.25-0.8 in. long, 0.04-0.16 in. wide) are linear or lanceolate, 2-8 whorled with toothed margins

**Flowers:** Three sepals or petals (0.12-0.2 in. long) white to reddish; sometimes produces reproductive structures called turions (0.12-0.5 in. long) at leaf axils, dark green, mostly conical

**Roots:** Slender, un-branched, submerged roots may form dense mats

**Reproduction:** Root structures, stem fragments, and turions

#### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Physical removal is effective if all plant fragments are removed
- Removing stem fragments and plant parts from boats, lines, and fishing gear can help prevent spread of infestations
- Herbicides may be effective
- Sterile grass carp can be an effective biological control

**Jointed goatgrass**  
***Aegilops cylindrica***



## Class C

### Jointed goatgrass

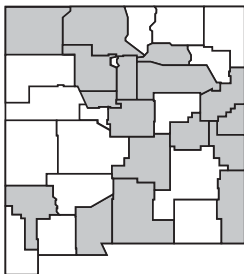
### *Aegilops cylindrica*

Winter annual grass that infests disturbed areas such as agricultural fields, grasslands, and roadsides.

#### Also Known As:

*Aegilops caudate*, *Aegilops tauschii*

**Stems/Leaves:** Plants grow up to 2 ft tall with hollow stems; leaves are more than 5 in. long, alternate, with membranous ligules, rounded auricles, and hairy margins



**Flowers:** Inflorescences are cylindrical spikes and disperse as units until maturity, but eventually break apart into joints (spikelets) over time; spikelets are cylindrical and consist of 2-5 florets, the lower 2 are fertile, and the uppermost florets are sterile

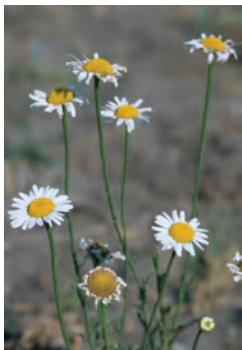
**Roots:** Fibrous roots

**Reproduction:** Seed

#### Management Do's and Don'ts

- Prevent seed production
- Herbicides are effective
- No biological control known
- Tillage and hand roughing are effective

**Oxeye daisy / *Leucanthemum vulgare***

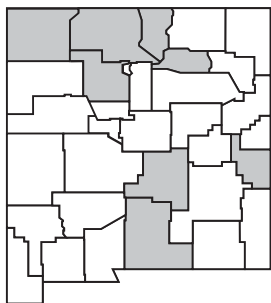


## Class A

### Oxeye daisy / *Leucanthemum vulgare*

Perennial found in a variety of habitats including rangelands, grasslands, roadsides, open fields, ditches, and other disturbed areas; grows well in poor soils.

**Also Known As:**  
Butter daisy, golden flower, *Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*



**Stems/Leaves:** Stems (up to 3 ft tall) are often clumped together, little to no branching; leaves (2-6 in. long) are lanceolate, pinnate-divided, green to dark green and alternate

**Flowers:** Single flower on each stem (1-40 stems per plant); flowers (1.2-2.75 in. diameter) have numerous white petals (0.4-0.8 in. long) surrounding a yellow center

**Roots:** Extensive creeping perennial root system

**Reproduction:** Perennial roots, root fragments, and seed reproduction

#### Management Do's and Don'ts

- Physical removal must remove root system
- Cultivation in summer to a depth of 6 in. followed by repeated shallow cultivation is effective at destroying roots and seedlings
- Herbicides are effective



**Pampasgrass / *Cortaderia selloana***



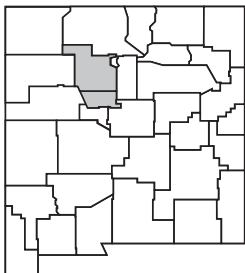
## Watch List

### Pampasgrass / *Cortaderia selloana*

Perennial that infests disturbed areas, undisturbed shrubland and marshes, riparian areas, and other sites where moisture is available.

#### Also Known As:

Common pampasgrass,  
Uruguayan pampasgrass,  
silver pampasgrass



**Stems/Leaves:** Plants grow in large clumps called tussocks (up to 12 ft tall) with erect and fountain-like appearance; leaves basal, flat or folded, with a bluish-green color and sharply serrated margins; sheaths open, glabrous to hairy, ligules consist of a dense ring of hairs (0.08-0.12 in. long)

**Flowers:** Male and female flowers generally develop on separate plants with plumelike inflorescences (1-3 ft long); female plumes are white with stiff secondary branches, male plumes are sometimes purplish tinted with flexible secondary branches

**Roots:** Dense fibrous roots with short lateral rhizomes

**Reproduction:** Seed

#### Management Do's and Don'ts

- Manually cutting from below the crown is effective
- Herbicides are effective
- Heavily mulching or planting desirable vegetation is effective

**Parrotfeather**  
***Myriophyllum aquaticum***



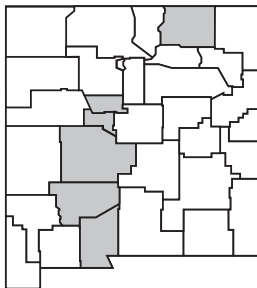
## Class A

### Parrotfeather

### *Myriophyllum aquaticum*

Aquatic perennial that infests riparian areas such as lakes, ponds, rivers, streams, and irrigation ditches; usually found in still or slow-moving water, but occasionally in fast-moving streams or rivers.

**Also Known As:** Brazilian watermilfoil, thread-of-life



**Stems/Leaves:** Emersed stems (up to 15 ft long, 0.2 in. diameter) may be branched, gray-green to reddish; leaves (0.5-1.5 in. long) 5-6 whorled, pinnate-divided with 10-15 pairs of opposite or alternate lobes (up to 0.3 in. long); lobes are linear and the main leaf axis is broader than the lobes

**Flowers:** Tiny flowers with translucent white petals or sepals (0.05-0.15 in. long) found at middle or upper leaf axils

**Roots:** Numerous creeping, branched rhizomes that form large, thick surface or subsurface mats

**Reproduction:** Vegetative reproduction from rhizomes, stem fragments, or buds on leaf axils

### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Repeated mechanical removal is effective at controlling density, but stem fragments may escape and form new infestations
- Removing stem fragments and plant parts from boats, lines, and fishing gear can help prevent spread of infestations
- Herbicides are effective

**Perennial pepperweed**  
*Lepidium latifolium*



## Class B

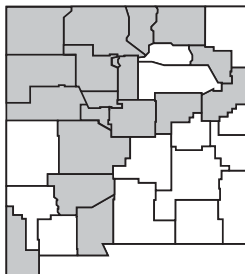
### Perennial pepperweed

#### *Lepidium latifolium*

Creeping herbaceous perennial found mostly in riparian areas, irrigation ditches, floodplains, and wetlands.

**Also Known As:** Tall whitetop, peppergrass

**Stems/Leaves:** Numerous semi-woody stems (2-5 ft tall) are glabrous, waxy, with some branching near the top; leaves (4-11 in. long, 1-3 in. wide) are green to gray-green, oval to narrow in shape, glabrous, alternate, and DO NOT clasp stem; basal leaves have serrate margins, stem leaves are entire to serrate



**Flowers:** Small, white flowers with four petals (0.15 in. long) form dense inflorescences that are rounded on top

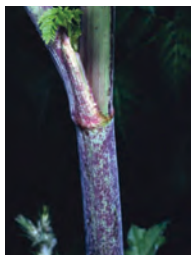
**Roots:** Creeping perennial root system; white to cream color with distinct odor

**Reproduction:** Perennial roots, root fragments, and seed reproduction

#### Management Do's and Don'ts

- Maintenance of a healthy plant community and prevention are the best management methods
- Hand pull all roots and seedlings
- Mowing is not an effective control method, but can prevent seed formation if done before flowering
- Herbicides are effective

**Poison hemlock**  
*Conium maculatum*

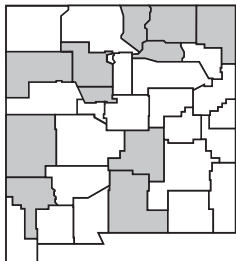


## Class B

### Poison hemlock

#### *Conium maculatum*

Biennial (sometimes annual or short-lived perennial) that typically infests open fields, pastures, ditches, riparian areas, and crop fields. All parts of the plant are extremely toxic to humans and livestock.



**Also Known As:** Deadly hemlock, spotted hemlock, poison parsley, poison stinkweed

**Stems/Leaves:** Stems (up to 10 ft tall) are hollow except at the nodes, ribbed, often with purple or reddish spotting or streaking, but sometimes without streaking; leaves (4-12 in. long) are triangular, glabrous, and pinnate-divided with toothed leaflets

**Flowers:** Several inflorescences grow in small bunches with a single axis; flowers are very small and white

**Roots:** Taproot

**Reproduction:** Seed; successful management prevents seed production/spread

#### Management Do's and Don'ts

- Hand pulling or cutting below the root crown is effective for small infestations
- Repeated cultivation or mowing (before seed production) is effective for controlling large infestations
- Herbicides are effective



## Quackgrass / *Elytrigia repens*



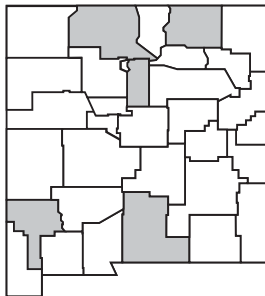
## Watch List

### Quackgrass / *Elytrigia repens*

Tufted perennial grass that infests disturbed areas such as roadsides, ditches, open fields, and urban areas, as well as crop fields.

#### Also Known As:

Couchgrass, devil's grass, dog grass, quickgrass, twitchgrass, wiregrass, *Elymus repens*



#### Stems/Leaves:

Round grass-like stems (up to 3.5 ft tall) with swollen nodes; flat, drooping leaves (1.6-12 in. long, 0.08-0.55 in. wide) are green to blue-green, have ribbed veins with large spaces between veins, and open sheaths; leaf blades have a constriction near tip

**Flowers:** Produces grass seeds on an elongated stem (2-8 in. long); the seeds alternate along the stem and are 0.35-0.6 in. long

**Roots:** Large perennial creeping and branching rhizome system, often with a tough brown covering

**Reproduction:** Rhizome and seed reproduction

#### Management Do's and Don'ts

- Maintenance of a healthy plant community and prevention are the best management methods
- Cultivation is effective but must be repeated to ensure that all rhizomes are destroyed
- Herbicides are effective

**Ravennagrass**  
***Saccharum ravennae***



## Class A

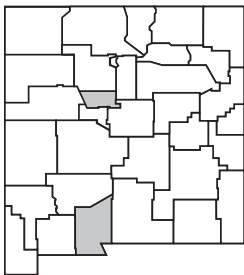
### Ravennagrass

#### *Saccharum ravennae*

Perennial that infests the margins of riparian zones, marshes, and ditches.

**Also Known As:** Ravenna grass, hardy pampasgrass, plume grass

**Stems/Leaves:** Very tall, erect ornamental grass that forms clumps (9-13 ft tall, 4-6 ft wide); flowering stems are up to 13 ft tall, with leaves distributed on the flowering stems up to the base of the inflorescence; leaves are densely covered with long, fuzzy, brown hairs at the base that hide the ligules and the upper surface of the blade base



**Flowers:** Silky-hairy spikelets in unequal pairs; lower spikelet is sessile, upper spikelet is stalked; each spikelet consists of 2 florets, upper floret is fertile, lower floret is sterile

**Roots:** Fibrous root system

**Reproduction:** Seed

#### **Management Do's and Don'ts**

- Mowing and burning are NOT effective
- Removing the roots is effective
- Herbicides are effective

**Siberian elm / *Ulmus pumila***

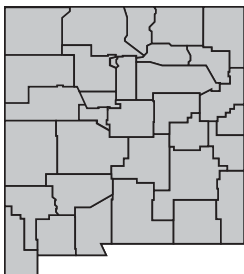


## Class C

### Siberian elm / *Ulmus pumila*

A deciduous tree that invades rangelands, grasslands, pastures, semi-arid areas, and riparian areas, as well as disturbed areas such as roadsides, ditches, and open fields.

**Also Known As:** Chinese elm, dwarf elm, Asiatic elm



**Stems/Leaves:** Woody trunk (10-60 ft tall) has light or dark gray bark with numerous ridges or furrows; produces numerous branching stems; leaves (0.75-3 in. long, 0.3-1 in. wide) are alternate, oval to oblong, green to dark green, with serrate margins

**Flowers:** Small, inconspicuous flowers grow in drooping clusters, lack petals, and are greenish in color with many small stalks that each bear a single flower; seed pods (0.5 in. in diameter) are thin, papery, green to brown, round or oval with a deep notch at the tip

**Roots:** Deep and extensive root system

**Reproduction:** From root crown or from seed; most reproduction and spread occurs through seed

#### Management Do's and Don'ts

- Physical removal is effective for seedlings or small trees
- Girdling is effective for mature trees if performed properly
- Herbicides are effective

## Tree of heaven / *Ailanthus altissima*



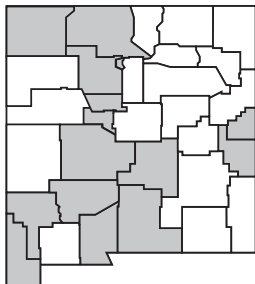
## Class B

### Tree of heaven / *Ailanthus altissima*

Deciduous tree that can tolerate shade, pollution, and harsh soil conditions; typically infests disturbed areas such as roadsides, ditches, and waste areas, as well as natural sites such as riparian areas and woodlands.

#### Also Known As:

Ailanthus, copal tree, varnish tree



**Stems/Leaves:** Erect tree with a single trunk (up to 65 ft tall); small trees have smooth, gray-brown bark while larger trees have rough bark with diamond shaped fissures; pinnate-divided leaves (1-3 ft long) have 10-22 pairs of opposite leaflets and one terminal leaflet; leaflets (3-5 in. long) are lanceolate with mostly smooth margins except for 2-4 rounded teeth at the base, often with small, circular glands on undersides of leaflets; leaves have a skunky odor when crushed

**Flowers:** Develop in bunches 4-8 in. long; flowers are small, greenish-yellow to white with five petals; seed pods (1-2 in. long, 0.5 in. wide) are flat, constrict around a single seed, straw-colored to reddish-brown, and grow in bunches

**Roots:** Taproot with shallow, creeping perennial lateral roots

**Reproduction:** Root crown, lateral roots, and seed reproduction

#### Management Do's and Don'ts

- Maintenance of a healthy plant community and prevention are the best management methods
- Physical removal is effective only if root crown and creeping lateral roots are removed
- Herbicides are effective



## Chicory / *Cichorium intybus*

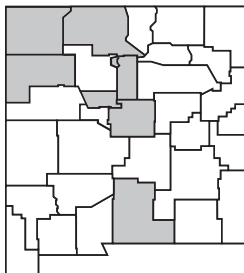


## Class B

### Chicory / *Cichorium intybus*

Biennial or perennial that infests disturbed areas such as roadsides, railroads, and waste grounds. Chicory plants resemble dandelion plants when in rosette stage

**Also Known As:** Blue daisy, blue sailors, blueweed, bunk, coffeeweed, succor



**Stems/Leaves:** Foliage is glabrous to short-bristly-hairy; stems (3 ft tall) herbaceous, branching, erect, with a milky sap; leaves (3-10 in. long) toothed to deeply lobed along the margins; upper stem leaves few, smaller in size, sessile, with margins entire or lobed, clasping the stem

**Flowers:** Dandelion-like flowers (1-2 in. diameter) are mostly blue but occasionally white or purple; petals are squared and toothed on the tip

**Roots:** Taproot sometimes weakly woody with a milky sap

**Reproduction:** Seed; seeds are dispersed mainly by human activities, and therefore effective management can prevent their spread

#### Management Do's and Don'ts

- Cultivation is effective
- No known biological controls exist
- Mowing is NOT effective
- Herbicides are effective

**Spiny cocklebur**  
*Xanthium spinosum*



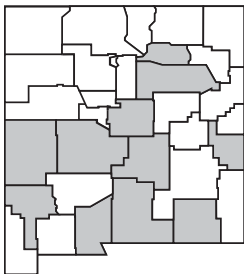
## Watch List

### Spiny cocklebur

#### *Xanthium spinosum*

Annual plant that infests disturbed areas such as roadsides, ditches, fields, pastures, orchards, riparian areas, and waste areas.

**Also known As:** Bathurst burr, cocklebur, clotweed, dagger cocklebur, Spanish thistle, spiny clotbur



**Stems/Leaves:** Stems (up to 3 ft tall) tough, branched, with three-branched, yellowish spines (0.5-1 in. long) on the leaf axils; leaves lanceolate, underside densely covered with white wooly hairs; leaf margins entire to toothed lobed (1-4 in. long) and with one main vein from the base

**Flowers:** Male and female flowers develop in separate heads on the leaf axils of the same plant; male flower heads are small, green, and develop in clusters; female flower heads develop on the leaf axils below the male flower heads singly or in small clusters; spiny female flower heads consist of 2 flowers that lack corollas and become hardened prickly burs that enclose 2 seeds at maturity

**Roots:** Taproot often branched

**Reproduction:** Seed

### Management Do's and Don'ts

- Manual removal is effective, especially before burs develop
- DO NOT cut and leave the plants with immature burs on the site because they can still develop viable seed
- Some herbicides are effective

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## Glossary

**alternate** – leaves that grow singly along the stem and are not opposite

**annual** – a plant that completes its life cycle in a single year and reproduces by seed only

**auricle** – a small ear-like structure at the base of a leaf or petal

**axil** – the point at which a leaf joins the stem

**basal** – referring to the base of the plant

**biennial** – a plant that completes its life cycle over two years

**bract** – a leaf- or scale-like structure, usually small, found on or just below a flower or flower head

**creeping** – a root or root system that grows horizontally either above or below the soil surface

**corolla** – a whorl of sepals or petals, usually found on the outer edge of the flower

**emersed** – growing above the water surface

**entire** – leaf margins that are smooth and do not have teeth or lobes

**floret** – a small or reduced flower, especially one of the grasses or sunflowers

**glabrous** – without hairs

**herbaceous** – a plant with the characteristics of an herb (i.e., leafy and green) and that is not woody

**inflorescence** – a group or cluster of flowers on a stem

**keeled** – a leaf with a raised or projected midvein that resembles the keel of a boat

**lanceolate** – shaped like a lance, much longer than wide, broad at the base and tapered toward the end

**ligule** – a thin membrane located at the junction of the leaf base and the leaf sheath or stem

**linear** – a very narrow leaf, much longer than wide, with parallel edges

**lobed** – a leaf edge that has lobes, usually rounded, the edges of which cut deeply to the midvein

**margin** – the edge of a leaf

**midvein** – the middle and often most prominent vein on a leaf

**noxious** – any foreign plant (not native to the U.S.) that has the potential to be harmful to crops, livestock, other useful plants and animals, agricultural interests, or public health

**oblong** – a leaf that is two to four times longer than it is wide, with edges that are parallel or nearly parallel

**opposite** – leaves that grow in pairs along a common axis and are directly across from one another

**panicle** – a compound inflorescence in which the branches are racemes, with younger flowers growing at the top

**perennial** – a plant that completes its life cycle in more than two years

**pinnate** – a compound leaf with leaflets that grow oppositely on two sides of a common, elongated axis

**raceme** – an inflorescence with flowers growing singly along an elongated, unbranched axis or stem

**rhizome** – an elongated stem that grows partially or completely below the soil surface

**sepal** – leaf- or petal-like appendages that are the outermost part of a flower, usually found just below the petals

**serrate** – a leaf edge with numerous small teeth that resemble the teeth on a saw and point toward the leaf tip

**sheath** – the lower, tubular portion of a leaf that normally surrounds the stem

**spreading** – growing along the ground

**stipule** – a small leaf-like structure found at the base of a leaf or leaf stalk, usually found in pairs

**submersed** – growing below the water surface

**taproot** – the main root of a plant that grows vertically into the soil

**toothed** – a leaf edge that has teeth-like projections

**wavy** – a leaf edge with curls, wrinkles, or waves, but NOT teeth, lobes, etc.

**whorled** – three or more leaves that are arranged in a circle around a stem or common axis





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