

**E-FLORA BC
INVASIVE, NOXIOUS AND PROBLEM PLANTS OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA**

October 2011 update

A small number of vascular plants in British Columbia are considered invasive, noxious or problem weeds. These are alien species, usually ones that significantly impact rangelands, affect forestry and forest regeneration, or impact on our wetlands. Some are highly invasive and alter natural ecosystems. Some of these plants are legislated as noxious under the BC Weed Control Act (either province-wide or regionally), or are designated by provincial agencies or invasive plant councils as nuisance, noxious or invasive species and targeted for control. The following list provides a summary of 163 weed taxa that fall into these categories. The list is based upon an [original list prepared by Tanya Perzoff](#) and also includes additional taxa that have been recently identified as invasive by BC botanists and species added to the BC Weed Control Act in 2011.

The list does not include native species, although taxa with mixed origin--both native and introduced--have been included (e.g. *Phalaris arundinacea*). Additionally, the list includes only taxa that are recognized by the BC Conservation Data Centre as part of the flora of British Columbia.

In British Columbia, the [Invasive Alien Plant Program \(IAPP\)](#) (BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations) tracks the spread of some weed species, and encourages public reporting of these species through their [Report-a-Weed](#) initiative. Species tracked under this program are noted in the list by an asterisk (*).

Please refer to Tanya Perzoff's original list for sources of species designations by provincial agencies.

Scientific Name	English Common Name	Comments	IAPP
Abutilon theophrasti	Velvetleaf	Noxious	*
Acer platanoides	Norway maple	Minor upland invasive	
Acinos arvensis	Mother-of-thyme	Minor upland invasive	
Acroptilon repens	Russian knapweed	Noxious	*
Aegilops cylindrica	Jointed oatgrass	Noxious	
Aegopodium podagraria	Goutweed	Invasive, often urban	
Agropyron pectiniforme	Crested wheatgrass	Minor upland invasive	
Alliaria petiolata	Garlic mustard	Noxious	*
Amaranthus retroflexus	Redroot pigweed	Nuisance, disturbed sites	*
Ambrosia artemisiifolia	Common ragweed	Minor upland invasive	
Ammophila arenaria	European beachgrass	Invasive, sand dunes	
Ammophila breviligulata	American beachgrass	Invasive, sand dunes	

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<u>Anchusa officinalis</u>	Common bugloss	Noxious	*
<u>Anthriscus caucalis</u>	Bur chervil	Noxious	
<u>Anthriscus sylvestris</u>	Wild chervil	Noxious	*
<u>Arctium lappa</u>	Great burdock	Noxious,	*
<u>Arctium minus</u>	Common burdock	Weed	*
<u>Artemisia absinthium</u>	Absinth	Minor upland invasive	*
<u>Avena fatua</u>	Wild oats	Noxious, disturbed sites	*
<u>Barbarea vulgaris</u>	Winter cress	Agricultural/urban weed	
<u>Berberis thunbergii</u>	Japanese barberry	Agricultural/urban weed	
<u>Berteroa incana</u>	Hoary alyssum	Noxious	*
<u>Betula pendula</u>	European birch	Invasive, bogs	
<u>Brachypodium sylvaticum</u>	Slender false brome	Newly arrived in 2008	
<u>Brassica kaber</u>	Charlock, wild mustard	Noxious, disturbed sites	*
<u>Bromus inermis</u>	Smooth brome grass	Moderate upland invasive	
<u>Bromus tectorum</u>	Cheatgrass	Invasive, abundant	*
<u>Buddleja davidii</u>	Butterflybush	Invasive, spreading quickly	*
<u>Butomus umbellatus</u>	Flowering rush	Noxious, principle wetland invasive elsewhere	*
<u>Calluna vulgaris</u>	Scotch heather	Invasive in bogs in or near urban areas	
<u>Calystegia sepium</u>	Morning glory	Nuisance	
<u>Capsella bursa-pastoris</u>	Shepherd's purse	Nuisance	*
<u>Caragana arborescens</u>	Siberian peashrub	Minor upland invasive	
<u>Cardaria draba ssp. draba</u>	Heart-podded hoary-cress	Noxious	
<u>Cardaria draba ssp. chalapensis</u>	Chalapa hoary-cress	Noxious	
<u>Cardaria pubescens</u>	Globe-pod hoary-cress	Noxious	
<u>Carduus acanthoides</u>	Plumeless thistle	Noxious	
<u>Carduus nutans ssp. leiophyllus</u>	Nodding thistle	Noxious	
<u>Centaurea biebersteinii</u>	Spotted knapweed	Invasive, noxious	
<u>Centaurea diffusa</u>	Diffuse knapweed	Invasive, noxious	*
<u>Centaurea x moncktonii</u>	Meadow knapweed	Invasive	*
<u>Centaurea nigra</u>	Black knapweed	Invasive elsewhere	*

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<u>Centaurea nigrescens</u>	Short-fringed knapweed	Invasive	
<u>Centaurea solstitialis</u>	Yellow starthistle	Noxious, invasive	*
<u>Centaurea stoebe ssp. micranthos</u>	Spotted knapweed	Invasive, noxious	
<u>Chelidonium majus</u>	Celandine	Minor upland invasive	
<u>Chenopodium album</u>	Lamb's quarters	Nuisance, abundant	*
<u>Chondrilla juncea</u>	Rush skeletonweed	Noxious	*
<u>Chorispora tenella</u>	Blue mustard	Noxious	
<u>Cichorium intybus</u>	Chicory	Nuisance, disturbed sites	*
<u>Cirsium arvense</u>	Canada thistle	Noxious, abundant	*
<u>Cirsium palustre</u>	Marsh plume thistle	Noxious, abundant	*
<u>Cirsium vulgare</u>	Bull thistle	Nuisance, abundant	*
<u>Conium maculatum</u>	Poison hemlock	Noxious	*
<u>Convolvulus arvensis</u>	Field bindweed	Nuisance, abundant	*
<u>Coronilla varia</u>	Crown vetch	Agriculture/urban weed	
<u>Crataegus monogyna</u>	European hawthorn	Highly Invasive	
<u>Crupina vulgaris</u>	Parastic dodder	Noxious	
<u>Cynoglossum officinale</u>	Common hound's tongue	Noxious	*
<u>Cyperus esculentus var. leptostachyus</u>	Yellow nut-grass	Noxious	
<u>Cytisus scoparius</u>	Scotch broom	Highly invasive	*
<u>Daphne laureola</u>	Spurge-laurel	Agriculture/urban weed	
<u>Descurainia sophia</u>	Flixweed	Noxious	
<u>Digitalis purpurea</u>	Foxglove	Abundant	
<u>Echinochloa crusgalli</u>	Barnyard grass	Nuisance	*
<u>Echium vulgare</u>	Viper's bugloss	Noxious	*
<u>Elymus repens</u>	Quackgrass	Abundant in disturbed sites	*
<u>Erodium cicutarium</u>	Stork's bill	Noxious	
<u>Euphorbia cyparissias</u>	Cypress spurge	Agriculture/urban weed	*
<u>Euphorbia esula</u>	Leafy spurge	Noxious, agriculture	*
<u>Fallopia x bohemica</u>	Bohemian knotweed	Invasive, noxious	
<u>Fallopia convolvulus</u>	Black bindweed	Invasive	

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<u>Fallopia japonica</u>	Japanese knotweed	Invasive, noxious	*
<u>Fallopia sachalinense</u>	Giant knotweed	Invasive, noxious	
<u>Galium aparine</u>	Cleavers	Noxious	*
<u>Galium mollugo</u>	White bedstraw	Minor upland invasive	
<u>Geranium robertianum</u>	Herb-Robert	Abundant	*
<u>Glyceria maxima</u>	Great manna grass	Noxious, minor invasive	
<u>Gnaphalium uliginosum</u>	Marsh cudweed	Nuisance	*
<u>Gypsophila paniculata</u>	Baby's breath	Nuisance	*
<u>Hedera helix</u>	English Ivy	Invasive, primarily urban	*
<u>Heracleum mantegazzianum</u>	Giant cow-parsnip, Giant hogweed	Noxious, nuisance	*
<u>Hesperis matronalis</u>	Dame's rocket	Minor upland invasive	*
<u>Hieracium aurantiacum</u>	Orange hawkweed	Noxious	*
<u>Hieracium caespitosum</u>	Yellow hawkweed	Nuisance	*
<u>Hieracium pilosella</u>	Meadow hawkweed	Nuisance	*
<u>Hordeum jubatum</u>	Foxtail barley	Nuisance	*
<u>Hypericum perforatum</u>	Common St. Johns-wort	Nuisance	*
<u>Hypochaeris radicata</u>	Hairy cat's ear	Agriculture/urban weed	*
<u>Hyoscyamus niger</u>	Black henbane	Noxious	
<u>Ilex aquifolium</u>	English holly	Invasive, urban forests	
<u>Impatiens glandulifera</u>	Policeman's helmet	Invasive	*
<u>Iris pseudacorus</u>	Yellw flag	Noxious, invasive	*
<u>Knautia arvensis</u>	Field scabious	Noxious	*
<u>Kochia scoparia</u>	Kochia, summer cypress	Noxious	*
<u>Lamium galeobdolon</u>	False lamium	Invasive	
<u>Lamium amplexicaule</u>	Common dead-nettle	Nuisance	*
<u>Lepidium latifolium</u>	Broad-leaved pepper-grass	Noxious	*
<u>Leucanthemum vulgare</u>	Ox-eye daisy	Noxious	*
<u>Linaria genistifolia ssp. dalmatica</u>	Dalmation toadflax	Abundant in disturbed sites	*
<u>Linaria vulgaris</u>	Butter-and-eggs	Noxious	*
<u>Lysimachia nummularia</u>	Moneywort	Minor wetland invasive	
<u>Lythrum salicaria</u>	Purple loosestrife	Noxious, wetland invasive	*

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<u>Madia glomerata</u>	Clustered tarweed	Nuisance	*
<u>Madia sativa</u>	Coast tarweed	Nuisance	*
<u>Malva neglecta</u>	Common mallow	Nuisance	*
<u>Matricaria discoidea</u>	Pineappleweed	Abundant in disturbed sites	*
<u>Matricaria perforata</u>	Scentless chamomile	Noxious	
<u>Morus alba</u>	White mulberry	Minor upland invasive	
<u>Myriophyllum aquaticum</u>	Parrotfeather	Invasive	*
<u>Myriophyllum spicatum</u>	Eurasian watermilfoil	Principle wetland invasive	*
<u>Onopordum acanthium</u>	Scotch thistle	Noxious	
<u>Origanum vulgare</u>	Wild marjoram	Minor upland invasive	
<u>Panicum capillare</u>	Common witchgrass	Nuisance	*
<u>Panicum miliaceum</u>	Wild proso millet	Noxious	
<u>Persicaria maculata</u>	Lady's thumb	Nuisance	
<u>Persicaria wallichii</u>	Himalayan knotweed	Invasive	*
<u>Phragmites australis ssp. australis</u>	European common reed	Invasive subspecies	
<u>Pinus sylvestris</u>	Scot's pine	Minor upland invasive	
<u>Plantago lanceolata</u>	Narrow-leaved plantain	Nuisance	
<u>Plantago major</u>	common plantain	Nuisance	*
<u>Poa annua</u>	Annual bluegrass	Nuisance	
<u>Poa compressa</u>	Canada bluegrass	Minor upland invasive	
<u>Poa pratensis</u>	Kentucky bluegrass	Minor upland invasive	
<u>Persicaria wallichii</u>	Himalayan knotweed	Invasive, noxious	*
<u>Potamogeton crispus</u>	Curly pondweed	Minor wetland invasive	
<u>Potentilla recta</u>	Sulphur cinquefoil	Noxious	*
<u>Prunus laurocerasus</u>	Cherry laurel	Garden escape, urban	
<u>Ranunculus repens</u>	Creeping buttercup	Noxious, disturbed sites	*
<u>Robinia pseudo-acacia</u>	Black locust	Minor upland invasive	
<u>Robinia hispida</u>	Bristly locust	Invasive, Kokanee Creek Provincial Park	
<u>Rosa multiflora</u>	Multiflora rose	Minor upland invasive	
<u>Rubus armeniacus</u>	Himalayan blackberry	Invasive	*
<u>Rumex acetosella</u>	Sheep sorrel	Nuisance, disturbed sites	*

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<u>Rumex crispus</u>	Curled dock	Nuisance, disturbed sites	*
<u>Salsola kali</u>	Russian thistle	Noxious	
<u>Saponaria officinalis</u>	Bouncing bet	Increasing, disturbed sites	
<u>Sedum acre</u>	Mossy stoncrope	Increasingly abundant	
<u>Senecio jacobaea</u>	Tansy ragwort	Noxious	*
<u>Senecio vulgaris</u>	Common groundsel	Nuisance	*
<u>Setaria viridis</u>	Green foxtail	Noxious	*
<u>Silene latifolia ssp. alba</u>	White cockle	Noxious	*
<u>Silene noctiflora</u>	Night-flowering catchfly	Noxious	*
<u>Silene vulgaris</u>	Bladder campion	Nuisance	*
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Milk thistle	Noxious	
<u>Solanum americanum</u>	Black nightshade	Common, disturbed sites	
<u>Solanum dulcamara var. dulcamara</u>	European bittersweet	Disturbed sites	
<u>Solanum physalifolium</u>	Hairy nightshade	Noxious	
<u>Solanum rostratum</u>	Buffalo-bur	Disturbed sites	
<u>Solanum triflorum</u>	Cut-leaved nightshade	Disturbed sites	
<u>Soliva sessilis</u>	Carpet burweed	Invasive, increasing	*
<u>Sonchus arvensis</u>	Perennial sow-thistle	Noxious	*
<u>Sonchus asper</u>	Prickly sow-thistle	Nuisance	
<u>Sonchus oleraceus</u>	Common sow-thistle	Noxious	*
<u>Sorbus aucuparia</u>	European mountain-ash	Highly invasive	
<u>Spartina anglica</u>	English cordgrass	Invasive	*
<u>Spartina densiflora</u>	English cordgrass	Noxious	
<u>Spartina patens</u>	Saltmeadow cordgrass	Noxious	
<u>Spergula arvensis</u>	Corn spurry	Nuisance	*
<u>Stellaria media</u>	Common chickweed	Nuisance	*
<u>Tanacetum vulgare</u>	Common tansy	Noxious	*
<u>Thlaspi arvense</u>	Field pennycress	Nuisance	*
<u>Torilis japonica</u>	Hedge parsley	Nuisance	
<u>Tragopogon dubius</u>	Goatsbeard, yellow salsify	Nuisance	*
<u>Tribulus terrestris</u>	Puncture vine	Noxious	*

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<i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i>	Scentless mayweed	Noxious	
Tussilago farfara	Coltsfoot	Agriculture/urban weed	
Ulex europaeus	Gorse	Noxious	*
Ulmus pumila	Siberian elm	Agriculture/urban weed	*
Ventenata dubia	North Africa grass	Noxious	
Verbascum thapsus	Great mullein	Nuisance	*
Vinca minor	Periwinkle	Urban invasive, ravines	

References

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