

# STOP THE SPREAD

## Diffuse Knapweed

*Centaurea diffusa*

**Diffuse Knapweed is a prolific seed producer, up to 18,000 seeds per plant which can remain dormant for years!**

### UNWANTED PLANTS

#### Origin

A biennial or short-lived perennial native to Eurasia. It was accidentally introduced through contaminated seed.

#### Status

Has invaded most areas of the United States and Canada. In Manitoba, it is classified as a noxious weed and is currently only found near Morden, MB.

#### Impacts

Diffuse Knapweed invades rangelands where it crowds out and suppresses desirable plants through allelopathy (release of toxins). Can also cause yield losses in forage crops.

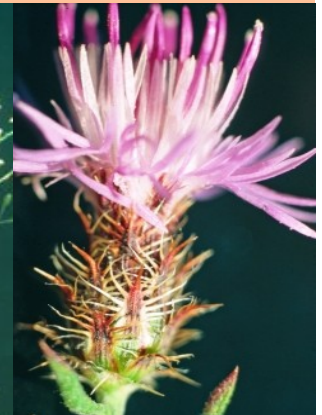
#### Where to Look

Knapweed occurs over a wide range of ecological habitat types. Though common in disturbed areas of wildlife habitat, pastures, and grasses, it can also be found in undisturbed native habitat.



#### Look For:

- ◇ Grows to be 0.3-0.6 m tall.
- ◇ Alternate leaves divided into linear segments, lance shaped, gray-green with fur-like hair.
- ◇ Flowers are white to pale pink with bracts that are spine-tipped.



#### Prevent the Spread in Manitoba

Diffuse Knapweed reproduces solely by seed, which are spread quickly and easily by wind, animals, farm equipment and recreation vehicles as well as infested feed or gravel. Remove this species from your property either by hand-pulling, mowing or herbicide.

**Report a Sighting:**



**Invasive Species Council of Manitoba**

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**Canada**

Funding for this project was provided in part by the Invasive Alien Species Partnership Program, a Government of Canada initiative.

**EDDMapS** **Prairie Region**  
Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System **Manitoba & Saskatchewan**

<http://www.eddmaps.org/prairieregion/>

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