

STOP THE INVASION

Red Bartsia

Odontites serotina

Once the seeds infest a crop or pasture Red Bartsia plants become extremely difficult to remove.

UNWANTED PLANTS

Origin

It first appeared in the Interlake region of Manitoba in the 1950s. It was introduced from German crates which were shipped to the Canadian Armed Forces Base at Gimli.

Status

Until recently the main region of infestation included areas around Gimli, Meleb and Fraserwood. New areas that have been infested are Souris, Carman and parts of Stonewall, Winnipeg, and Selkirk.

Impacts

Plants produce 1400 seeds a year, which are equipped with coarse hairs that stick to clothing, fur, and vehicles enabling them to travel long distances. Red Bartsia outcompetes native vegetation. Poses a serious economic concern for pastures and hayland.

Where to Look

It is a weed found primarily in pastures, hayfields, and roadsides.



Look For:

◇ **Stems:** Are erect, and branching to reach heights of 15-30cm.

◇ **Leaves:** Narrow bear clasp leaves, in pairs, about 3 cm in length. Stem and leaves are hairy.

◇ **Flowers:** Reddish-purple in color develop in spike-like clusters on the top half of the stem. Red Bartsia flowers in late spring.

Prevent the Spread in Manitoba

Prevention is the best protection. Early sightings can be sprayed with herbicide and in fields not suitable for chemicals, cultivation and planting competitive crops is an effective control method.

Report a Sighting:



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

EDD MapS Prairie Region
Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System Manitoba & Saskatchewan

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

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