



# OXEYE DAISY

**BOTANICAL NAME:** (*Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*)

**WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?** A short lived perennial with daisy-like flowers that sit at the end of stalks that can be 1 to 3 feet tall. The flowers are made up of white petals with a golden center or “eye”. The glossy green leaves get smaller as they go up the stem. It is also known as Field Daisy, Marguerite Daisy, Poverty Weed, Mid-summer Daisy, and Dog Daisy. It grows very rapidly, crowding out more desirable plants.

**WHERE DOES IT LIKE TO GROW?** Brought in from Europe as an ornamental garden plant, it can be found in meadows, overgrazed

pastures, roadsides and abandoned properties.

**WHEN DOES IT BLOOM?** Flowering occurs June through August.

**HOW DOES IT SPREAD?** New plants can start from seed and also from the spreading roots. Small plants can produce 1,300 to 4,000 seeds per plant

**CONTROL:** Oxeye daisy often appears where the soils are low in pH and nutrients. Once established, oxeye daisy can rapidly take over the area, squeezing out all grasses and native plants.

**Caution:** Oxeye daisy is commonly sold in wildflower seed mixes. Check the contents before planting.



## NON – CHEMICAL CONTROL:

Do not allow the plants to go to seed. Mowing before flowering can reduce the production of seed. Repeated mowing will be needed to control any new growth.

- Fertilizing will help existing grasses fill in the bare spots and crowd out the oxeye daisy. **NOTE:** Based on a study in an eastern Washington mountain meadow, application of nitrogen fertilizer was almost as effective as herbicides at reducing the number of oxeye daisy plants. After seven years, grass yields increased 500 percent with this treatment.
- Over-seeding with a recommended pasture grass seed is highly recommended.
- Tilling will not work as it can spread pieces of the root and the root pieces will start new plants.
- Grazing – sheep, goats and horses eat the oxeye daisy, but cows and pigs do not like it
- There are no biological control insects working on oxeye daisy in North Idaho at this time.

**CHEMICAL CONTROL:** See the reverse side for more information on mechanical, cultural, biological and chemical control of Oxeye Daisy. Also see our Chemical Treatment handout for more information on using herbicides.



For more information please contact:

**Kootenai County Noxious Weed Control**  
10905 N. Ramsey Road  
Hayden, ID 83835  
208-446-1290

kcnoxioussweeds@kcgov.us or [www.kcweeds.com](http://www.kcweeds.com)

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# How to Control Oxeye Daisy

Oxeye Daisy is perennial that reproduces both by seed and by creeping roots. Control is accomplished by attacking the root system as well as preventing seed production.

**Mechanical** Mowing can reduce seed production but does not kill existing plants. Tillage can spread viable root fragments and increase your infestation.

**Cultural** The best long term weed control is to get your desirable native plants thriving. Seed and fertilize to get your native grasses growing vigorously.

**Biological** There are currently no biological control agents available for Oxeye Daisy. Contact Nez Perce Biocontrol Center for more information (208)843-9374 or [nezpercebiocontrol.com](http://nezpercebiocontrol.com).

**Chemical** \* See our *Chemical Treatment* handout for more information on using herbicides.

- **Aminopyralid** is the active ingredient in herbicide product such as **Milestone**. It is broadleaf selective (safe on grasses) and can be effective on Oxeye Daisy if applied in spring in the rosette, bolting, or early bud stages.
- **Clopyralid** is the active ingredient in herbicide products such as **Transline**. It is broadleaf selective and also safe on most conifer trees. It can be effective on Oxeye Daisy if applied in spring during the rosette or bolting stage.
- **Metsulfuron Methyl** is the active ingredient in herbicide products such as **Escort XP**. It is safe on most grasses and can be effective on Oxeye Daisy if applied in the spring up through flowering.
- **Chlorsulfuron** is the active ingredient in herbicide products such as **Telar XP**. It is broadleaf selective and can be effective on Oxeye Daisy if applied during the rosette stage in fall or spring.
- **Triclopyr** is the active ingredient in herbicide products such as **Garlon 3A**, **Element 3A**, and many "Poison Ivy and Tough Brush Killer" products. It is broadleaf selective and can be effective on Oxeye Daisy when applied to rapidly growing plants in the spring. It is most effective on smaller plants.

*Recommendations are based on University of Idaho Extension Bulletin 865 [Idaho's Noxious Weeds 2011 Control Guidelines Noncrop and Rangeland Sites](#), the book [Weed Control in Natural Areas in the Western United States](#) published by UC Davis Weed Research & Information Center, and herbicide labels.*