

Goatsrue

BOTANICAL NAME: Galega Officinalis

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

Goatsrue is an herbaceous plant that grows up to 6 feet tall. It has compound leaves with 1-2 inch long leaflets arranged in opposite pairs with a single odd leaflet at the end of the branch for a total of 13-21 leaflets. Purple to white flowers are pea-like and grow in clusters at the top of the vertical stems. Goatsrue is similar in appearance to Vetch, except that Goatsrue is erect while Vetch is low and creeping.



WHERE DOES IT GROW?

It tends to invade roadsides, stream banks, farm fields and marshy areas.

HOW DOES IT SPREAD?

Goatsrue spreads primarily by seed, with each plant able to produce up to 15,000 seed pods each containing up to 9 seeds. The seeds can remain viable in the soil for 5-10 years.

WHY IS IT A NOXIOUS WEED?

It displaces desirable native species, and destroys wildlife habitat. Additionally, it contains a toxic alkaloid that can kill cattle, sheep and humans.

HOW DO I CONTROL IT?

Goatsrue is on the Idaho's EDRR list, which is the highest priority of State noxious Weeds. If you find it, please report it to the Kootenai County Noxious Weed Control Office as soon as possible so we can positively identify it, map its location, and help you eradicate it.



Photo by:
Sasha Shaw

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

kcnoxioussweeds@kcgov.us or www.kcweeds.com

Kootenai County does not discriminate against individuals or groups on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment in, its public meetings, programs, or activities. Requests for assistance or accommodations can be arranged by contacting the Noxious Weed Control Department at (208) 446-1290 or County Administration Office TTY (208)446-2145 with 3 days advance notice.

Image Credits: Joel Prince, Oregon Dept. of Agriculture; Mark Porter, Oregon Dept. of Agriculture; Annie Simpson, my.usgs.gov