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: Oxeye daisy can be resistant to some chemicals. Contact the Kootenai County Noxious Weed Department or the Kootenai County Extension Department for recommendations.

For more information please contact:

Kootenai County Noxious Weed Control
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Hayden, ID 83835
208-446-1290 / TTY 208-446-2145
kcnoxiousweeds@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.