



CATSEAR

BOTANICAL NAME: *Hypochoeris radicata*

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE? This rapid growing perennial plant is often mistaken for a dandelion. It forms a cluster of hairy leaves at the base of the plant with 8 to 16 inch tall, stiff, wiry, smooth stems that are often branched near the top. At the tip of each branch is a single yellow flower head. This plant is also known as common catsear, hairy catsear, false dandelion, flatweed, spotted cat's-ear.

WHERE DOES IT LIKE TO GROW? Catsear will germinate and grow in pastures, lawns, roadsides and in any disturbed or neglected soil.

WHEN DOES IT BLOOM? The dandelion-like yellow flowers start appearing in May and will continue through the summer.

HOW DOES IT SPREAD? Catsear reproduces by seed and vegetatively by way of buds formed on the crown that can produce new plants. The seed is orange-brown and has fine, toothed ribs and a long slender beak that carries two rows of hairs (pappus) that help it to fly in the wind.

HOW DO I CONTROL IT? Try to minimize weed infestations by keeping your land in good condition. The use of fertilizer will encourage grasses to grow stronger and crowd out weeds.



NON-CHEMICAL CONTROL:

- For small areas, cut or dig the plant below the root crown in the early spring.
- On large areas, this plant can be managed by plowing and cultivating for one to two years.
- Mow the plants to keep them from flowering and setting seed.
- Sheep, pigs and some wildlife will graze catsear.

CHEMICAL CONTROL:

- Contact the Kootenai County Noxious Weed Department or the Kootenai County Extension Department for herbicide recommendations.

NOTE: This plant is not considered noxious in the State of Idaho or in Kootenai County

WANT TO KNOW MORE? – Call:

Kootenai County Noxious Weed Control
10905 N. Ramsey Road
Hayden, ID 83835
208-446-1290 / TTY 208-446-2145
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.