



SULFUR CINQUEFOIL

BOTANICAL NAME: *Potentilla recta*

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE? Sulfur cinquefoil is a perennial plant with many upright stems that can grow 1 to 2 feet tall. The stout, hairy stems end in small clusters of pale "sulfur" yellow flowers and each flower is made up of 5 heart shaped petals. The yellowish green leaves are

hairy and appear green on the underside rather than silvery as in many potentilla species. The leaves decrease in size, and the length of the leafstalks get shorter near the top of the stem. The 5 to 7 leaflets have a look similar to marijuana.

WHERE DOES IT LIKE TO GROW? A native of Europe and Asia, it lives in pastures and abandoned fields, open forests, logged areas and roadsides.

WHEN DOES IT BLOOM? Flowers will begin appearing in late May or early June and continue to bloom through July, but the plant can produce flowers throughout the summer if growing conditions are favorable.

HOW DOES IT SPREAD? Each blooming plant can produce as many as 1,650 seeds in one season and seedlings quickly mature into blooming plants. Sulfur cinquefoil can also be spread by roots if they are moved by plowing or on soil-moving equipment.

CONTROL: Prevention is always the best method of control. Learn to identify this plant and to control the infestation when you first notice it. You will have more success eliminating small infestations. Large infestations may require a variety of control methods and a number of years to control.

NON-CHEMICAL CONTROL:

- The use of fertilizer, water and over seeding will encourage desirable grasses and native plants to grow quickly and crowd out this weed.
- Hand pulling or digging before seed set, when the soil is moist, is effective if care is taken to remove the upper portion of the root system.
- Mowing is not an effective control method, as new shoots will quickly replace the cut stems.
- Grazing animals, except goats, find this plant unpleasant and will not eat it.



CHEMICAL CONTROL:

- Treat in the early bud stage; usually around early to mid-June. Repeated applications are needed for long-term herbicide control. Call our office for the best herbicide to use.

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

Want more information? Contact:

Kootenai County Noxious Weed Control
10905 N. Ramsey Road
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.