

INVASIVE WEED WATCH

WABAMUN WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

SCENTLESS CHAMOMILE (*Matricaria perforata*)

Scentless Chamomile is a noxious weed that prefers to inhabit heavy clay soils and is tolerant to wet/dry spells commonly found in forage/hay fields, irrigation, turf, roadsides, waste areas, and rangeland areas. It is a poor competitor, but if introduced to a disturbed area it will quickly establish.

Scentless Chamomile spreads by seeds, with mature plants having upwards of 1,000,000 seeds! During a flood, seeds are transported by water and can be widely dispersed over a large area. This invasive weed is easily identified by its single, white daisy-like flowers on the end of a stem with finely-divided leaves and bushy growth. It can often be mistaken with Oxeye daisy, but it can be differentiated by its leaves.

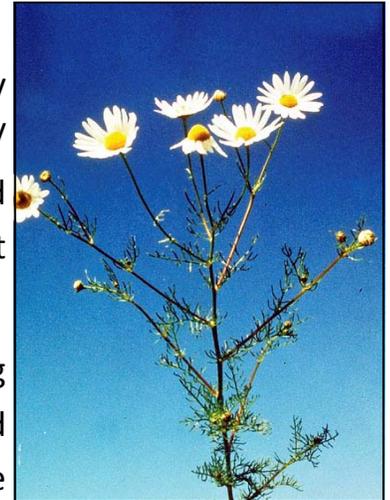


Photo: Alberta Invasive Plants Council

The best method of control is not introducing it to your landscape. However, if it is present on your property in small amounts, pulling out the plants, bagging and disposing is your best course of action. If possible, seed area to grass or a non-invasive plant. To manage a large infestation, herbicide and/or cultivation will offer the best results. Don't forget to clean your equipment after in order to prevent future infestation! Mowing will only result in the plants re-blooming below the cutting height. There are selective herbicides that will control Scentless Chamomile - picloram & clopyralid can be effective, but must be applied properly. Note: any herbicide applied near water bodies requires specific applicator certification and permits from Environment & Sustainable Resource Development. Consult your local Agricultural Fieldman for information. For more information also see the AIPC Plant Fact Sheets at: www.invasiveplants.ab.ca

To report Prohibited Noxious and Noxious weeds on crown land contact your local Environment and Sustainable Resource Development office. For weeds on all other lands contact your County/Municipality office.



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