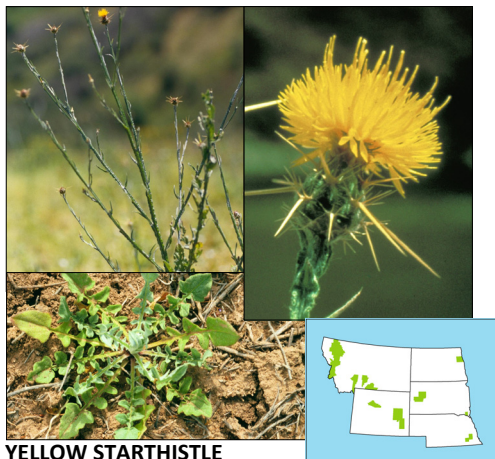
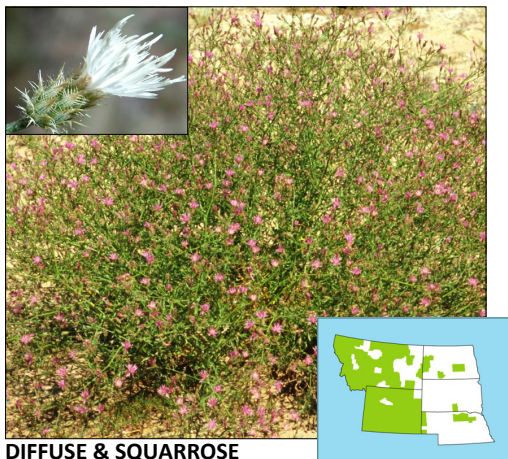


# KEEP A LOOK OUT!

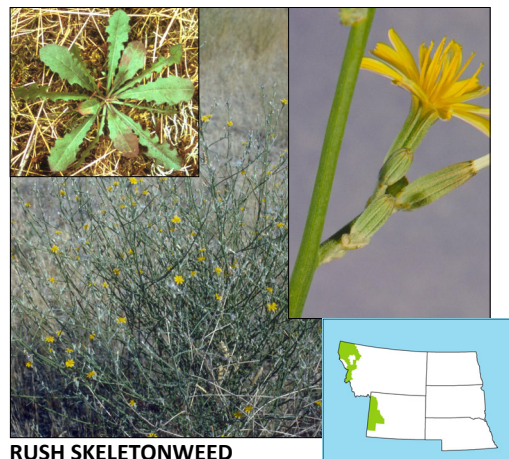
for **NEW INVASIVE PLANTS** in the Northern Great Plains



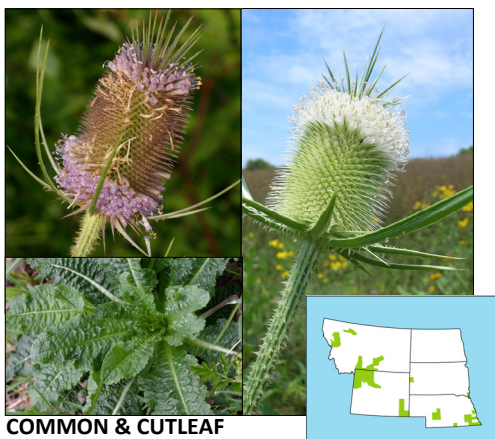
YELLOW STARTHISTLE



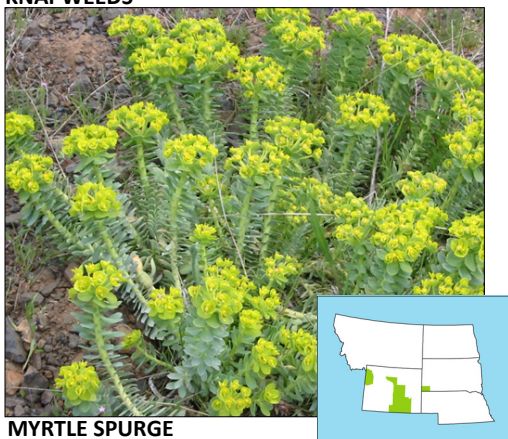
DIFFUSE & SQUARROSE  
KNAPWEEDS



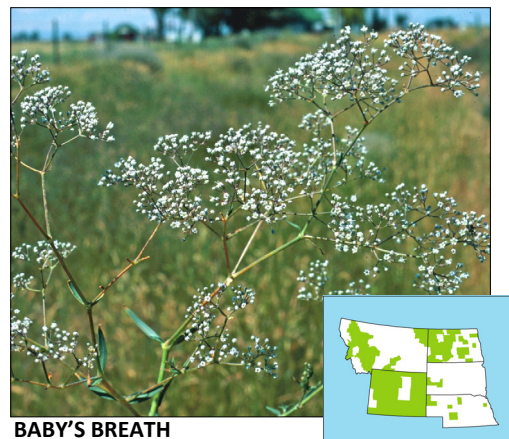
RUSH SKELETONWEED



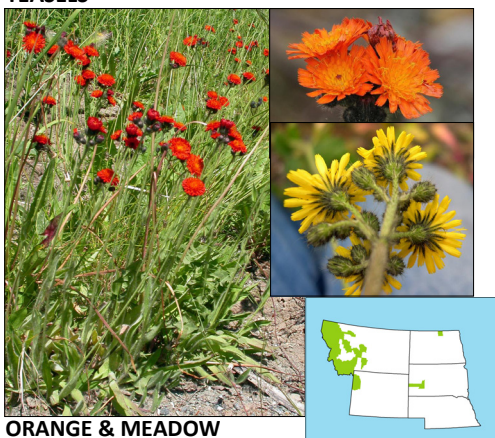
COMMON & CUTLEAF  
TEASELS



MYRTLE SPURGE



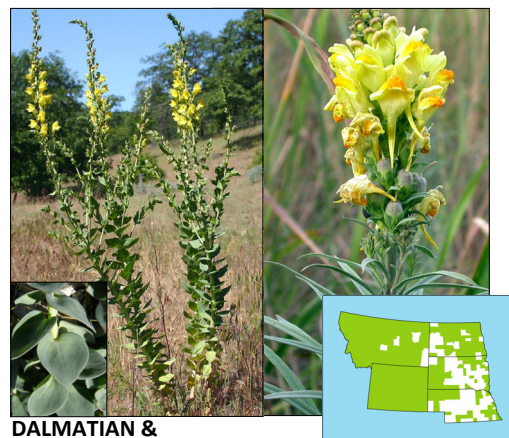
BABY'S BREATH



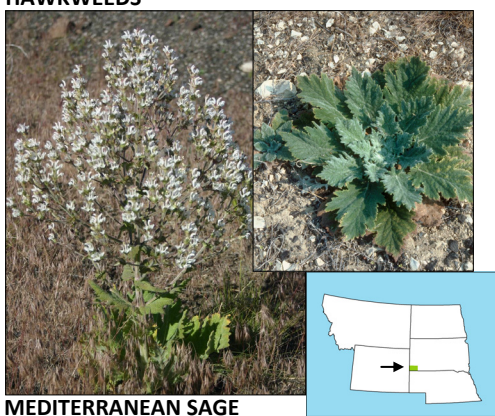
ORANGE & MEADOW  
HAWKWEEDS



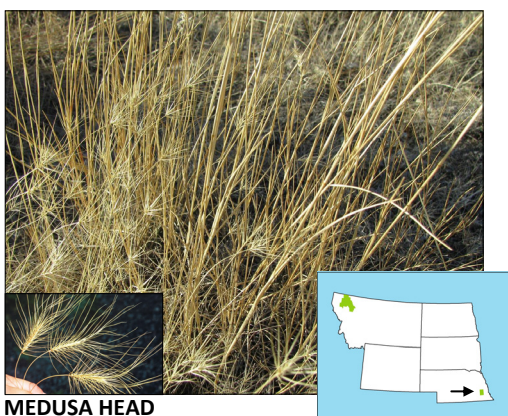
DYER'S WOAD



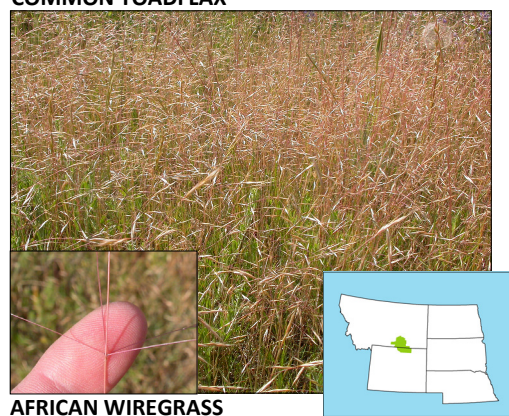
DALMATIAN &  
COMMON TOADFLAX



MEDITERRANEAN SAGE



MEDUSA HEAD



AFRICAN WIREGRASS

The maps show current reported distribution in the Northern Great Plains.  Not reported  Present  
To report new infestations of these and other invasive species, go to [EDDMAPS.org/mrwc/](http://EDDMAPS.org/mrwc/). See reverse side for species descriptions.



# New INVASIVE PLANTS in the Northern Great Plains

## **YELLOW STARHISTLE** (*Centaurea solstitialis*)

Annual **herb**, grows 6" to 5' tall. Gray-green to blue-green stems and leaves covered in cottony wool. Basal **leaves** typically 2-3" long and deeply lobed, upper leaves 0.5-1" long, narrow, fewer or no lobes. Branched stems terminate with a bright yellow **flower** head. Sharp, straw-colored spines radiate in a star shape at the flower base. Threatens rangelands and pastures.

**DIFFUSE & SQUARROSE KNAPWEEDS** (*Centaurea diffusa/C. virgata*) Multi-branched, erect, flowering stems grow 1.5-3' tall from a rosette base. Basal **leaves** are deeply lobed, stem leaves are small and bract like. Small, brown **seeds** have short hairs on one end. **Squarrose** is a true perennial that may have a woody base. Small, slender, pink to rose **flowers** form on branch ends. Bract tips below flowers have distinct, curved spines. **Diffuse** knapweed is a short-lived perennial, biennial or sometimes annual. White or pink-purple **flowers** form on a terminal, 0.33", spiny bract. Threatens rangeland and pastures.

## **RUSH SKELETONWEED** (*Chondrilla juncea*)

Perennial **herb**, grows from basal rosette with deeply lobed, hairless, reddish-brown tinged **leaves**. Lobes project backward toward leaf base. Rosette leaves die at flowering. Stem has numerous ascending branches, grows 1.5-3' tall, often leafless or with bract-like leaves only. Yellow **flowers** form along branches and at branch ends. **Seeds** have numerous soft bristles on one side. Taproot is thin and long. Leaves, stems, and roots exude white latex when broken or cut. Threatens crop, pasture, range, and forest lands.

## **COMMON & CUTLEAF TEASELS** (*Dipsacus fullonum/D. laciniatus*)

Perennial **herb**, flowers once then dies. First year forms a low-growing **rosette**; second or third year produces a 2-6' stem. **Leaves** on stem opposite, long, prickly, joined in a cup around stalk. Cutleaf teasel leaves are lobed; common teasel leaves are not. Stem ridged and spiny. **Flowers** small in oval-shaped heads, bloom summer into fall. Flowers are white (cutleaf) or purple (common). Threatens prairies and sedge meadows.

## **MYRTLE SPURGE** (*Euphorbia myrsinites*)

Succulent perennial with a flat, woody base and numerous trailing stems that ascend 4-6". **Leaves** are blue-green, waxy, fleshy, and pointed, spiraling tightly around stems. Showy yellow-green bracts encircle inconspicuous star-shaped **flowers**. Evergreen in warmer areas. Plant sap is caustic, and may cause rashes, swelling, and blistering on skin. Threatens open lands, including playgrounds and parks.

## **BABY'S BREATH** (*Gypsophila paniculata*)

Perennial **herb**, 3' tall. Stems are smooth, linear, and extensively branched. Oppositely arranged, lance-shaped **leaves** grow 1-4" long sparsely along stems. **Flowers** white, long-lasting, 0.25" wide, form in open clusters. Established plants have a thick, penetrating root system. Threatens pastures and rangelands.

**ORANGE & MEADOW HAWKWEEDS** (*Hieracium aurantiacum/H. caespitosum*) Perennial **herb**, grows 10-20" on hairy, often leafless stems. Basal **leaves** are hairy, spatula-shaped, dark green on top and light green underneath, and grow 4-6" long. 5-30 **flower** heads form per

stem, 0.5-0.75" in diameter each, orange in color (orange hawkweed) or yellow (meadow hawkweed). Tiny, ribbed, black **seeds** have a tuft of hairs on one side. Spreads by rhizome and seed. Threatens pastures, forest openings, and fields.

## **DYER'S WOAD** (*Isatis tinctoria*)

Winter annual, biennial or short-lived perennial grows up to 4' tall on multi-branched stems. Alternate, simple, lance-shaped **leaves** have prominent white mid-vein and long petioles (leaf stems). Basal leaves grow to 8" long while stem leaves are smaller. 0.25" yellow **flower** heads form in flat-top terminal clusters. Teardrop-shaped **fruits** turn purplish-brown at maturity and contain a single seed. Threatens forests, pastures, and rangelands.

**DALMATIAN & COMMON TOADFLAX** (*Linaria dalmatica/L. vulgaris*) Perennial **herb** grows to 1-4' tall on smooth, erect stems. 1-25 stems form per plant. Soft, pale green **leaves** are lance-shaped (common toadflax) or heart-shaped (Dalmatian toadflax). **Flowers** look like large, yellow snapdragons and form in terminal racemes. Round **seed** capsules are 2-celled, 0.5" long and contain numerous dark brown or black, winged seeds. Threatens grasslands and pastures.

## **MEDITERRANEAN SAGE** (*Salvia aethiopsis*)

Biennial **herb**; first year rosette is blue-green and covered in woolly white hairs. 2nd year plants grows 1-3' on highly branched, densely haired stems. Gray-green **leaves** are triangle-shaped with rounded, irregular-toothed margins, and have a pungent smell when crushed. Yellow to white **flowers** form in clusters of 5-10. Individual flowers are 0.5" long and are formed of 2 lips; lower lip is smaller and 3-lobed, upper lip is hooked-shape. Stem breaks off of mature plants in fall, creating a tumbleweed that disperses 1000s of seeds. Threatens pastures and rangelands.

## **MEDUSA HEAD** (*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*)

Slender, winter annual **grass**, grows 6-20" tall. 2-4 **leaves** per stem, blades smooth, < 0.1" wide. Distinct, bristly **seed** heads remain intact through maturity. Awns 1-3" long, minutely barbed, become twisted with age. Plants remain green longer than most other annual grasses, then become light gray or tan after seed production. Seed heads and leaves degrade slowly; can identify from plant litter. Threatens grasslands and rangelands.

## **AFRICAN WIREGRASS** (*Ventenata dubia*)

Winter annual **grass**, growing 6-28" tall on erect stems. Stems appear smooth but are covered in microscopic hairs. Narrow lance-shaped **leaves** are folded lengthwise. **Flowers** are open, terminal clusters, silvery green that turn yellowish-tan at maturity. 3 florets form per spikelet; one or more have twisted, bent awns. Seed germinates in fall. Threatens grasslands and pastures.

**Map distribution data** obtained from the Biota of North America Program (<http://bonap.org>), the Black Hills Herbarium (<http://herbarium.bhsu.edu>), [EDDMaps.org](http://EDDMaps.org), the National Park Service, the Northern Prairie Herbarium (<http://www.npwrc.usgs.gov/resource/literatr/herbar/>), the Nebraska Invasive Species Project (<http://neinvasives.com>), the Rocky Mountain Herbarium (<http://www.rmh.uwyo.edu>), the South Dakota Department of Agriculture (<https://sdda.sd.gov/>) and the Wyoming Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (<http://www.uwyo.edu/capsweb/>).

**For control & management of these species, please visit**

<http://mipncontroldatabase.wisc.edu> & <http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/fact.htm>

**Photo credits:** **Yellow starthistle**-Laura Parsons, UID, PSES, Bugwood, Steve Dewey, USU, Bugwood, Cindy Roche, Bugwood; **Knapweeds**-Steve Dewey, Cindy Roche; **Rush skeletonweed**-Gary Piper, WSU, Bugwood, USU Archive, Bugwood, Eric Coombs, OR Dept of Ag; **Teasels**-Paul Rothrock, Taylor Univ, Debbie Maurer, Lake Co Forest Preserve District, IL; **Myrtle spurge**-Dan Sharratt, OR Dept of Ag; **Baby's breath**-Steve Dewey; **Hawkweeds**-Jamie Nielsen, U of Alaska Fairbanks, CES, Bugwood, Rob Routledge, Sault College, Bugwood, Tom Heutte, USFS, Bugwood; **Dyer's woad**-Bonnie Rasmussen, OR Dept of Ag, Steve Dewey; **Toadflax**-Bonnie Miller, NPS, Bugwood, Eric Coombs, Michael Shephard, USFS, Bugwood; **Mediterranean sage**-Eric Coombs, Lloyd Andres, USDA ARS, Bugwood; **Medusa head**-Leslie Mehrhoff, UConn, Bugwood, Steve Dewey; **African wiregrass**-Matt Lavin, MSU.