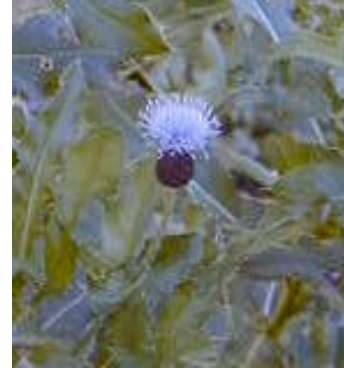


Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*)



Canada thistle	
General	Family: Sunflower (Asteracea) Elevation: 4,000 to 9,500 feet Herbaceous Perennial Colony forming unisexual plants
Habitat	Infestations are found in cultivated fields, riparian areas, pastures, forests, lawns and gardens, roadsides, and in waste areas. Because of its seeding habits, vigorous growth, and extensive underground root system, control or eradication is difficult. It is one of the most widespread and economically damaging noxious weeds in Colorado

PLANT	
Vegetation	Mature plants are two to five feet tall. The leaves are four to eight inches long, usually dark green with spiny serrated edges
Roots	Horizontal growth is quick and roots can regenerate from small pieces. Horizontal roots may extend 15 feet or more and vertical roots may grow 6-15 feet deep.
Flower	June-August Color: Purple, pink or white Buds are 3/4 of an inch or less in diameter
Seed	Seed can be viable eight to ten days after flowering. Seeds germinate from late May through early fall. Can remain dormant in soil for up to 20 years.
Seedling	Canada thistle emerges in April or May in most parts of Colorado. Rosettes start to appear around mid-April and continue through the summer.

Reproduction	By seed and horizontal roots. Root propagation is the main source of new plants.
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CONTROL			
BIOLOGICAL	Is not effective in our area		
CHEMICAL	Rosette	Banvel Transline	Spring and/or Fall
	Pre-Bud to Early Bud Stage	2,4-D Banvel Escort Telar Curtail Transline	Spring through Fall
	Actively growing	Tordon (Restricted use) Glyphosate (ie: RoundUp/Rodeo Spot treatment only)	Spring through Fall
CULTURAL	Prevention - Maintain health of site		
MECHANICAL			
Burning	N/A		
Grazing	N/A		
Mowing	Mowing is best prior to seed set. Mow every three to four weeks from June through September to weaken the plants. Works best when combined with fall herbicide treatments.		

Other Info	http://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/natres/03108.pdf
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Use all chemicals according to the manufacturer's label. No specific recommendation or endorsement is made or implied by listing the above methods or products.