



Weed & Pest Happenings

Brought to you by Laramie County Weed & Pest

April • May • June • 2020

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Scotch Thistle

Events:

- BOARD MEETINGS:
April 9: Little Bear Inn-???
May 7: Little Bear Inn-Cheyenne
June 4: Weed & Pest-Pine Bluffs
- Armed Forces Day – May 16
- Flag Day – June 14
- Summer begins – June 20

CLOSED:

May 25, 2020
Memorial Day

Contact Us:

- **PINE BLUFFS** ~ Main Office
(307) 245-3213
Mon-Fri: 8 am-Noon/1-5 pm
- **ARCHER** (307) 634-5348
April 1 – October 31 Hours:
Mon-Friday: 8:30 am-4:30 pm
- Website:
<http://laramiecountyweeds.com>
- E-mail:
larcoweed@rtconnect.net

Early Detection • Rapid Response

Early Detection • Rapid Response a.k.a. **EDRR** is a plan to watch for or search for new, small populations of invasive species that may be new to the area (early detection) and then take action to manage the weeds before they become a huge problem (rapid response).

Early detection is less costly and more effective in the long run to stop invasive species.

Everyone can help identify and report invasive species infestations, not only near your home but also anywhere you see them while you are hiking, biking, walking or driving.

Call us at Laramie County Weed & Pest or your local County Weed & Pest office to report your invasive species sightings. We would be happy to take your report.

See the Wyoming State Designated and the Laramie County Declared Noxious Weed list under the “Weeds” heading on our website at <http://laramiecountyweeds.com>

Scotch Thistle

Scotch thistle is a biennial plant that flowers between June and August. The flowers are purple to violet or reddish to pinkish-white, 1 to 2 inches in diameter, solitary and numerous.

It is found in the west central Great Plains in feed yards, pastures, rangeland, around ponds, roadsides, disturbed sites and ravines.

It reproduces entirely from its small seeds that are dispersed by wind. It can grow from 1.5 feet tall to 12 feet tall. Scotch thistle is an aggressive plant and can form stands so dense that livestock and humans cannot get through them.

The leaves are oblong, coarsely toothed with spines alternating up the stem which has broad, spiny wings. Leaves are a bluish or grayish-green color because of the thick hairy surface on both sides.

So, what to do if you have an invasion of Scotch Thistle? There are several options:

- Early detection is key to stop it before it gets worse.
- Mowing can stop the spread of seeds but plants can regrow.
- Cutting, digging or pulling are all effective but watch for regrowth.
- Herbicides can be used during the rosette state or for fall regrowth. Herbicides such as Dicamba + 2,4-D, Aminopyralid, or Tordon to name a few. Use surfactant to help with the absorption of the herbicide. Always read and follow the label!