

Red Alert Invasive Weeds of Inland Mendocino County

California Noxious Weeds: A and Q rated

California Noxious Weeds are plants designated as pests by the California Department of Food and Agriculture. A-rated weeds have a limited distribution and are targeted for eradication. Q-rated weeds are newly-listed pests that are treated as A-rated pending further study. Besides those pictured here, A/Q-rated weeds of concern include spotted knapweed, Dyer's woad and oblong spurge. For more information, see cdfa.ca.gov/phpps/ipc/



Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)

Originally introduced as an ornamental, purple loosestrife invades riparian areas (streambanks) and other wetlands. It displaces habitat and forage for wildlife.



Rush Skeleton Weed (*Chondrilla juncea*)

Rush Skeleton weed is found in roadsides, croplands, rangelands and residential landscapes. It reduces forage value and crop yields.

Red sesbania was introduced as an ornamental but has escaped into riparian areas (streambanks) and ditches. Its foliage, twigs and fruits are toxic to wildlife.



Red sesbania (*Sesbania punicea*)

Cal-IPC Red Alerts

The California Invasive Plant Council conducts assessments of non-native plant species to determine their potential for invasiveness and for environmental impact. The species shown below are considered high risk for establishing in our area and causing significant environmental and/or economic harm. For more information, see cal-ipc.org



Patterson's curse (*Echium plantagineum*)

Patterson's curse is found in grasslands and roadsides. It is highly toxic to most grazing animals. Cost of this weed in Australia is estimated at \$30 million annually.

Little robin invades riparian (streambank) and woodland areas. It displaces native vegetation, degrading wildlife habitat. The similar species herb-robert (*Geranium robertianum*) is also of concern.



Little robin (*Geranium purpureum*)



Parrot's feather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*)

Parrot's feather is an aquatic weed found in ponds, lakes and ditches. It degrades the habitat for aquatic wildlife and clogs water pumps.

At our Borders

These weeds are some of the many weeds that may be brought into Mendocino County in forage. Inspections at state and county lines may catch some contaminated shipments, but not all. If you see these weeds anywhere in Mendocino County, please notify the Mendocino County Department of Agriculture at 463-4208.



Woolly distaff thistle (*Cirsium lanatus*)

Woolly distaff thistle invades roadsides and grasslands. Its spiny leaves, stem and flower have no forage value and it displaces desirable forage consumed by wildlife and livestock.

Purple starthistle grows on heavy, fertile soils such as bottomlands. Similar to yellow starthistle except in color, it displaces desirable forage for wildlife and livestock.



Purple starthistle (*Centaurea calcitrapa*)



Meadow knapweed (*Centaurea debeauxii ssp. thuillierii*)

Meadow knapweed has invaded grasslands in Oregon. It is unpalatable to grazing animals. It is similar in appearance to spotted knapweed, another Red Alert weed.



For more information, contact
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