

Invasive thistles of Bay Area counties

Species	Life habit	Reproduction	Mowing?
Woolly distaff thistle	Annual weed	Germinates throughout winter, maybe into summer	Mow right before flowering
Stinkwort			
Purple starthistle	Perennial weed	Germinates with rainfall <i>and also</i> sprouts from the roots	Mow right before flowering – will have to repeat
Artichoke thistle			

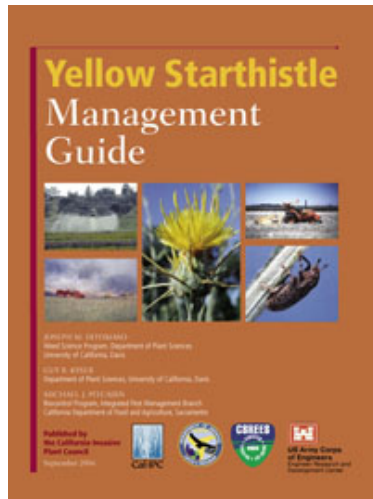
Other common purple-flowered thistles:
Italian thistle ▪ Milk thistle ▪ Bull thistle

Herbicides for controlling thistles

Product	Chemical	Rate per acre	Soil residual	Good for	Best timing
Selective soil-residual chemicals for emerged plants and seedlings					
<i>Milestone</i>	aminopyralid	3 to 7 oz	3-6 months	Most thistles (not stinkwort)	Mid to late winter
<i>Transline</i>	clopyralid	2/3 pint to 1 1/3 pint	2-3 months	Annual thistles; also good for purple starthistle	Late winter to spring
Short or no residual; for emerged plants					
<i>Milestone VM+</i>	triclopyr + aminopyralid	2 to 3 qts	1-2 months	Most thistles	Spring
<i>Garlon</i>	triclopyr	up to 2 qts	None	Most broadleaf plants	Late spring to summer
<i>Roundup</i> and others	glyphosate	up to 2 qts	None	Almost anything green	Late spring to summer (NOT in winter)

Integrated Management for Yellow Starthistle

Available Online: <http://www.cal-ipc.org/ip/management/yst.php>



Summer burning (before flowering) followed by winter application of *Milestone* or *Transline* is the best treatment for yellow starthistle. This hasn't been tested on the thistles discussed above.

Important Information Sites

wric.ucdavis.edu

- Training videos
- Herbicide susceptibility charts
- Weed Blog
- Weed identification tool
- Eventually, pages from the "Weed Control in Natural Areas" book

ipm.ucdavis.edu

- Pest control notes and fact sheets
- Weather data
- Free online training courses

cal-ipc.org

- Invasive plants information and impacts
- Maps of invasive plants
- Weed management areas
- Order "Weed Control in Natural Areas"

genericherbicides.com

- Inexpensive source for clopyralid, triclopyr, glyphosate, and surfactants