Nebraska’s Noxious Weeds

It is the duty of each person who owns or controls land to effectively control noxious weeds on such land.

Noxious weed is a legal term used to denote a destructive or harmful weed for the purpose of regulation.

The Director of Agriculture establishes which plants are noxious. These non-native plants compete aggressively with desirable plants and vegetation. Failure to control noxious weeds in this state is a serious problem which is detrimental to the production of crops and livestock, and to the welfare of residents of this state. Noxious weeds may also devalue land and reduce tax revenue.

Musk Thistle
- Height 1.6–9.8 ft
- Pink to purple flowers
- Mature seedhead

Canada Thistle
- Height 1–3.9 ft
- Pink to purple flowers

Plumeless Thistle
- Height 1–4.9 ft
- Purple flowers

Phragmites
- Height 3.2–20 ft
- Young seedhead
- Mature seedhead

Leafy Spurge
- Height 3–2.8 ft
- Large yellow leaves (bracts)
- Stems and leaves have milky sap

Sericea Lespedeza
- Height 1.5–6.5 ft
- White or cream to yellowish white flowers

Japanese Knotweed
- Height 3–10 ft
- Creamy white to greenish white flowers

Giant Knotweed
- Height 8–13 ft
- Creamy white to greenish white flowers

Purple Loosestrife
- Height 1–6 ft
- Purple to magenta flowers

Saltcedar
- Height 3.3–20 ft
- Pink to white flowers

Spotted Knapweed
- Height 1–3.9 ft
- Lavender to purple flowers

Diffuse Knapweed
- Height 1–3.9 ft
- White or purplish flowers

Cutleaf Teasel
- Height 4–5 ft
- White flowers

Common Teasel
- Height 3–6 ft
- Lavender to white flowers

Lancaster County’s Noxious Weeds

Good neighbors control noxious weeds — If you have questions or concerns about noxious weeds, please contact your local county noxious weed control authority, Nebraska Weed Control Association (www.neweed.org), or Nebraska Department of Agriculture.