

The background features a soft, sepia-toned image of a mountain range with a prominent peak. On the right side, a branch of a willow tree hangs down, adorned with numerous small, dark, round seed pods or buds. The overall aesthetic is natural and rustic.

*Summit County's Noxious
Weeds*

Summit County Weed Program

<http://www.SummitCountyCO.gov/weeds>

Chamomile

(Scentless and Mayweed)



- ❖ Annual, reproducing by seed only.
- ❖ Prolific seeder with many generations in one growing season.
- ❖ Produces up to 1 million seeds per plant.

Chamomile

(Scentless and Mayweed)

- ❖ Seeds germinate rapidly allowing one plant to give rise to millions of plants per growing season.
- ❖ Only difference between Scentless and Mayweed Chamomile is the scent.



Canada Thistle



- ❖ A perennial that emerges in spring and flowers in early summer.
- ❖ Spreads by extensive creeping roots that form colonies.
- ❖ Roots can grow up to 20 feet deep.
- ❖ Also spreads by seeds that can remain viable for 20 years.

Canada Thistle

- ❖ Has light to dark green irregular leaves with deep toothed spinney margins.
- ❖ Bears small clusters of lavender flowers.
- ❖ Do not dig this plant!



Musk Thistle



- ❖ Biennial which produces up to 120,000 seeds per plant.
- ❖ Seeds can stay viable for up to 10 years.
- ❖ Purple flowers appear in July to August, with one “nodding” flower per stem.

Musk Thistle

- ❖ May produce allelopathic chemicals (its own herbicide) that inhibit the growth of other plants.
- ❖ Digging musk thistle up works well, cutting decreases flower/seed counts on plants.



Plumeless Thistle

- ❖ Biennial that can release up to 100,000 seeds per plant.
- ❖ Seeds can remain viable for up to ten years.
- ❖ Has leaves resembling “wings” going up the entire length of the stem.



Plumeless Thistle

- ❖ Digging Plumeless works well, cutting decreases flower/seed counts on plants.
- ❖ The State of Colorado would like this plant to be eradicated within the next two years, so everyone's contribution is essential.



Bull Thistle



- ❖ Biennial plant with a short fleshy taproot.
- ❖ 2-5 feet tall bearing many spreading branches.
- ❖ Mature plants can produce up to 4000 seeds.

Bull Thistle

- ❖ Due to its large spines it is unpalatable to most livestock.
- ❖ Digging Bull Thistle works well, cutting decreases flower/seed counts on plants.



Bull



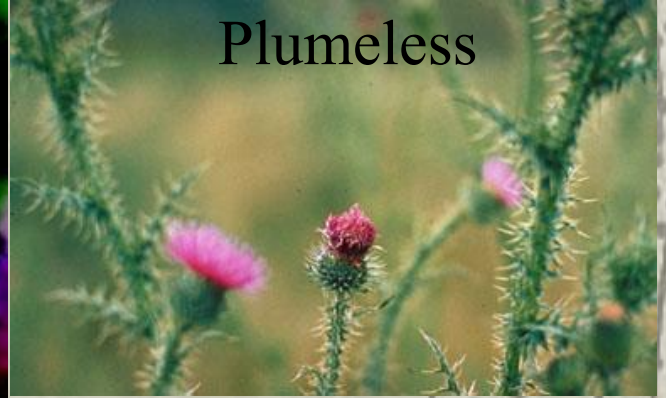
So Many Thistles

Canada



Musk

Plumeless



Native



06/18/2003

Native



06/18/2003

Native



06/18/2003

So Many Thistles



Spotted Knapweed

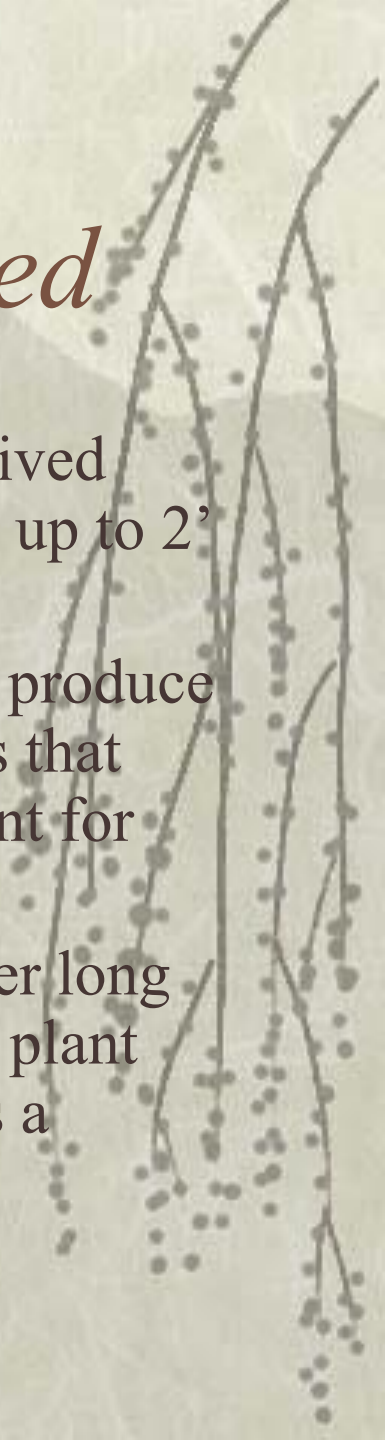
- ❖ Short lived perennial growing from 1'-3' tall.
- ❖ One plant can produce 140,000 seeds that can remain dormant for up to 8 years.
- ❖ Spotted Knapweed can be distinguished from other Knapweeds by the dark tips on the bracts of the flower.



Diffuse Knapweed



- ❖ Biennial or short lived perennial growing up to 2' tall.
- ❖ A single plant can produce up to 18,000 seeds that can remain dormant for several years.
- ❖ Disperses seed over long distances after the plant dries and becomes a tumbleweed.



Russian Knapweed

- ❖ Perennial growing from 18"-36" tall.
- ❖ Stems and sometimes leaves are covered with a fine white hair giving them a bluish gray color.
- ❖ Has a well developed root system that is black or dark brown in color.
- ❖ One Plant can produce 1,200 seeds that can remain viable for up to 8 years.
- ❖ Poisonous to livestock and deadly to horses.



Cheat Grass / Downy Brome

- ❖ Winter annual grass usually growing about 6” tall in the high country.
- ❖ Leaves are light green and hairy.
- ❖ Flowers appearing in May are slender, hairy and drooping. They then change color from green to purple to brown as the plant eventually dries out.





Houndstongue

- ❖ Biennial or short-lived perennial.
- ❖ Elliptical shaped leaves often appear dusty, and insect ridden.
- ❖ Rose–purple flowers appear in late June and July.
- ❖ Seeds have many tiny hooks that stick to clothing and fur.
- ❖ Toxic to horses and cattle.



Field Bindweed

- ❖ Perennial growing horizontally with 1'-4' long stems often climbing or forming dense mats.
- ❖ Has an extensive root system with rhizomes and a *very* long taproot with several lateral roots.
- ❖ Reproduces both vegetatively and by seed.
- ❖ Seeds can remain viable for over 20 years.
- ❖ Leaves are shaped like arrowheads.





Perennial Pepperweed

- ❖ Perennial growing from 3'-5' tall.
- ❖ White flowers are packed in dense clusters near the ends of branches appearing in July.
- ❖ Leaves and stems are covered with a waxy layer.
- ❖ Reproduces by seed and a vigorous creeping root system.



Hoary Cress / White Top

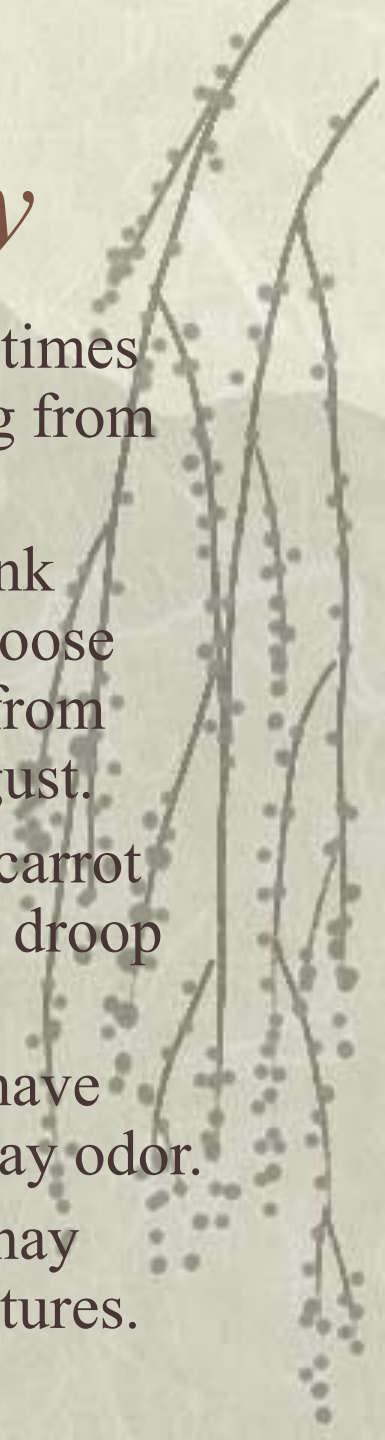
- ❖ Perennial growing 10”-18” tall.
- ❖ Roots have been found at a depth of up to 30 feet.
- ❖ Clusters of white flowers give the plant a white, flat-topped appearance, providing it with its name.
- ❖ One plant can produce up to 5,000 seeds.



Wild Caraway



- ❖ Biennial, or sometimes perennial growing from 1'-4'.
- ❖ Small white or pink flowers occur in loose clusters anytime from June through August.
- ❖ Leaves resemble carrot leaves but tend to droop more.
- ❖ Leaves and fruit have distinctive Caraway odor.
- ❖ Common pest in hay meadows and pastures.



Leafy Spurge

- ❖ Perennial growing about 1' tall in the high country but capable of reaching up to 3' in height.
- ❖ Has a cluster of small, yellowish-green flowers on each stem.
- ❖ Flowers appear in mid-summer.
- ❖ Leaves are 1"- 4" long, narrow, smooth and hairless.
- ❖ All parts of the plant exude milky latex that can cause burns and irritation to the skin.
- ❖ Reproduces mostly vegetatively through its root system, but also by seed.



Leafy Spurge

- ❖ Roots can grow up to 15' laterally, 30' deep and capable of having as many as 300 buds.
- ❖ Seeds can remain viable up to 8 years.
- ❖ One plant can produce 250 seeds of which 99% will germinate within the first two years.
- ❖ Leafy Spurge is capable of shooting its seeds up to 15' away from the parent plant.
- ❖ Toxic to horses and livestock causing skin sensitivity, burns and colic.



Poison Hemlock

- ❖ Biennial growing from 4'-10' tall.
- ❖ White flowers are grouped in an umbrella shaped cluster from June to July.
- ❖ Leaves are shiny, green and fern-like.
- ❖ Leaves have a musty odor.
- ❖ Stems are covered in purple spots.
- ❖ All parts of the plant are poisonous and should be handled with gloves.
- ❖ Believed to be the plant that killed Socrates.



Oxeye Daisy

- ❖ An upright perennial growing 10"-24" tall.
- ❖ Leaves are lobed and smaller at the top of the stems.
- ❖ Emerges in early spring and blooms from June through August.
- ❖ Can produce up to 500 seeds per plant, which can remain viable for 3 years or longer.





Dame's Rocket

- ❖ Biennial or short-lived perennial growing up to 3' in height.
- ❖ Flowers are white or purple with 4 petals clustered in loose stalks at the tops of the stems and are highly scented.
- ❖ Dame's Rocket is very susceptible to powdery mildew and is almost always affected by it in the high country.



Yellow Toadflax

- ❖ A perennial that emerges in early spring and flowers in early summer.
- ❖ Has many long, narrow, pointed, blue-green leaves.
- ❖ Bears numerous snapdragon-like flowers that are bright yellow with deep orange centers.
- ❖ Spreads by seed and by extensive creeping roots.





Dalmatian Toadflax

- ❖ Perennial growing up to 3' tall with thick, sometimes woody stems.
- ❖ Leaves are somewhat fleshy, clasp the stem and are blue-green in color.
- ❖ Yellow snapdragon shaped flowers blooming from June through August.
- ❖ A mature plant can produce up to 500,000 seeds that can remain viable for up to 10 years.
- ❖ Roots can grow up to 3-4' vertically and 6-12' laterally in the soil.



Sulfur Cinquefoil

- ❖ Perennial reaching 1'-1.5' tall.
- ❖ Light yellow, 5 petaled flowers appear from June to August.
- ❖ Stems have perpendicular hairs.
- ❖ Reproduces by rhizomes (underground runners), vegetatively and by seeds that stay viable for more than 4 years.
- ❖ Has a long life-span, 20-year-old plants are not uncommon.



Black Henbane

- ❖ Biennial growing from 1'-3' tall.
- ❖ Leaves are hairy and coarse having an offensive odor.
- ❖ Brownish yellow flowers with a purple center and purple veins appear in July.
- ❖ Used medicinally as a sedative and narcotic.
- ❖ All parts of the plant are toxic to livestock, and potentially poisonous to humans.



Myrtle Spurge



- ❖ Low growing perennial reaching a height of 4"-6" and spread of 18".
- ❖ Fleshy, trailing blue-green leaves.
- ❖ Yellowish green flower-like bracts appear in early spring.
- ❖ Reproduces by seeds capable of projecting up to 15' away from the parent plant.
- ❖ Exudes toxic, milky latex that can cause burns and irritation to the skin.
- ❖ All plant parts of the plant are considered poisonous.

Orange Hawkweed

- ❖ Perennial growing from 6"-18" tall.
- ❖ Flowers occur between June and July.
- ❖ Bristly hairs occur along the stems. Reproduces by seeds, stolons and rhizomes.
- ❖ Each flowering stem is capable of producing several hundred seeds.
- ❖ Contains a milky sap.



Tamarisk / Salt Cedar

- ❖ A shrub or small tree reaching heights of 15’.
- ❖ Small scaly leaves similar to Cedar and Juniper.
- ❖ The main root can grow to a depth of 90’ with lateral roots reaching to up to 160’.
- ❖ Increases the salinity of the soil surface, discouraging native plants.
- ❖ One plant can produce up to 600,000 seeds annually that can fully germinate within 24 hours following contact with water.



Common Mullein

- ❖ Biennial that produces a rosette of large, thick, fuzzy leaves the first year and a single stem of flowers that are 2'-6' tall the second year.
- ❖ Leaves are light green and very wooly.
- ❖ Flowers are yellow and grouped in a “corn cob” shape appearing in Summit County July through September.
- ❖ Each plant produces up to 180,000 seeds per plant that can remain viable for 100 years.



Common Tansy

- ❖ Perennial growing 1.5'-6' tall.
- ❖ Leaves are deeply divided and dark green in color.
- ❖ Stems are often purplish-red in color with an unpleasant odor.
- ❖ Yellow button-like flowers lack petals.
- ❖ Flowers occur in dense clusters at the tops of the plant July - September.



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