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Last Updated July 2015

# Yellowdevil Hawkweed

*Hieracium glomertum* (aka Queendevil)

**Alberta Regulation:** Proposed

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## Overview:

Yellowdevil hawkweed is a member of the Aster Family native to Europe. It is a fibrous rooted, perennial herb with a milky latex in the stems and leaves. Yellowdevil hawkweed reproduces by seeds and vegetatively by rhizomes underground.[2] Seeds are produced by apomixis - asexually - as non-native hawkweeds are polyploids (n=9), as opposed to the native diploid hawkweeds.[1] Occasional sexual reproduction occurs, facilitating outcrossing and hybridization.[1]

Non-native hawkweeds exhibit many characteristics of an invasive plant: high seed production and germination rates, asexual seed production, wind-dispersed seed, vegetative reproduction via rhizomes, stolons, and root fragments, and rapid growth.[1] A few invasive hawkweed species are popular ornamentals. All of these characteristics facilitate rapid colonization and monopolizing of resources. An undetected patch of hawkweed has great potential to become an un-eradicable infestation.

Hawkweeds develop a low rosette of basal leaves before producing a flowering stem. Dandelion-like flowers are borne at the ends of stems.

The hairs on the leaves and stem give the plant a rough appearance.[1]

## Habitat:

Hawkweeds prefer well drained, coarse textured soils, moderately low in organic matter, in mesic habitats.[1]

## Identification:

**Stems:** Are erect and plants grow 25-90 cm. Lower stems with sparse to dense stellate and short simple hairs. Stolons are absent.[1]

**Leaves:** Are bright to yellow-green, narrowly to broadly lance=shaped to elliptic and tapering to the petiole. Upper and lower surfaces of leaves have numerous stellate hairs and simple, short, and stiff hairs.[1]

**Flowers:** Yellow ray flowers are borne in an open, round-topped clusters of 15-25. Involucral bracts are densely covered with stellate and glandular hairs.. Achenes are ribbed with a dirty white to tawny pappus.[1]

## Prevention:

Learning to recognize hawkweeds from the many yellow-flowered members of the Aster Family is key to prevention. Hairs are an important characteristic of non-native hawkweeds and also in distinguishing between species. Long term management of hawkweeds requires maintaining healthy forbs and grasses - fertilization of desirable vegetation can result in out-competition of hawkweeds. Re-seed disturbance in areas susceptible to hawkweed invasion.

## Control:

**Grazing:** Unknown. Invasive plants should never be considered as forage.

**Mechanical:** Mowing before flowering will prevent seed production of taller plants but will not inhibit reproduction via rhizomes. Hand digging of small infestations where all root pieces can be removed may be effective. Root fragments can generate new plants, therefore any mechanical tilling/cultivation would be ineffective.

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# Yellowdevil Hawkweed (Continued)

**Chemical:** Hexazinone, 2,4-D, and glyphosate are registered for use on *Hieracium* spp./hawkweeds. Always check product labels to ensure the herbicide is registered for use on the target plant in Canada by the Pest Management Regulatory Agency. Consult your local Agricultural Fieldman or Certified Pesticide Dispenser for more information.

**Biological:** Yellowdevil hawkweed has been one of the species used in host-range investigations of potential biological control agents.[3]


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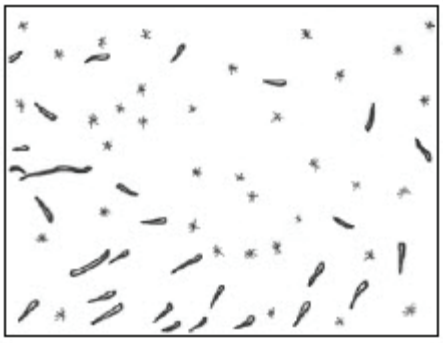


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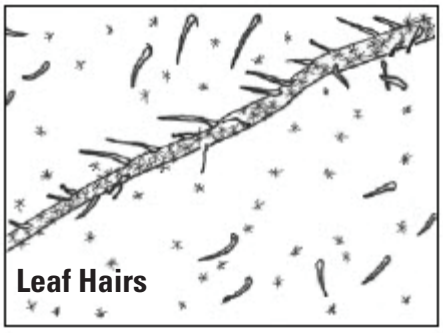


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## REFERENCES


**1** Wilson, Linda. Key to Identification of Invasive and Native Hawkweeds in the Pacific Northwest. British Columbia Ministry of Forests and Range, Forest Practices Branch, Invasive Alien Plant Program.

**2** Wilson, L., Fehrer, J., Brautigam, S., and Grosskopf, G. A new invasive hawkweed, Hieracium glomeratum(Lactuceae, Asteraceae)< in the Pacific Northwest. 2006 NRC Canada.

**3** Grosskopf, G., Wilson, L.M., and Littelfield, J.L. Host-range onvestigations of potential biological control agents of alien invasive hawkweeds (Hieracium spp.) in the USA and Canada: an overview.



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