



WEEDS OF SPRING

2020



Washington's noxious weed law (*RCW 17.10*) requires landowners, as well as city, county, and state land agencies to control or eradicate certain weeds. The 2020 Island County Noxious Weed List is available at: <https://bit.ly/2UH1u4q>.

You can also pick up a copy at the WSU Extension Island County office or the Whidbey Island Conservation District office.

For past Weed Bulletins, visit: www.whidbeycd.org/weed-bulletin.html



QUESTIONS?

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Noxious Weed Coordinator



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www.facebook.com/islandcountynoxiousweedprogram/
Visit Island County Noxious Weed Control Board for more information
www.islandcountywa.gov/Health/DNR/Noxious-Weed/Pages/Home.aspx



Special Bio Control Issue! Questions? Call Seth @ 360-678-7992



Broom feeding bruchid (*Bruchidius villosus*)

Weed association:

Scotch broom (*Cystisus scoparius*)
Class B unregulated

- **ID:** Adults are small (2 mm or 1/16 inch), grayish beetles with short wing coverings. Eggs are clear and oblong on young developing pods. Larvae difficult to observe on inside of developing seeds until new adult emerges (above left). If found, larvae are tiny and whitish with a brown head capsule.
- **How it works:** Females lay eggs on developing seedpods. Larva hatch and burrow into pods, consuming seeds. Adults feed on pollen. Can use in conjunction with Scotch broom seed weevil (*Exapion fuscirostre*).
- **Release timeframe:** Late April –Mid May



Loosestrife root weevil (*Hylobius transversovittatus*)

Weed association:

Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)
Class B regulated

- **ID:** Adults are reddish-brown weevils, 8-12 mm (approximately 3/8 to 1/2 inch) long, with two rows of white spots (hair tufts) across the back. Larvae are cream-colored, brown-headed larvae found within the roots.
- **How it works:** Adults feed on above ground foliage, larva feed within roots. Reduces plants stored reserves. Can be used in association with seed weevil (*Nanophytes mar-moratus*) or loosestrife leaf beetle (*Galerucella spp*) for more comprehensive control.
- **Release timeframe:** variable release dates.

Important Information About Bio Control

Bio control is a long-term management strategy and utilized only in large noxious weed infestations. They should not be used as an eradication measure.



Biological weed management means using living organisms to help manage weeds. This involves releasing a specific biological control agent, typically an insect, nematode, fungi, or bacteria to a weed-infested area and allowing the agent to attack the weeds. Each biological control agent targets a specific weed species. There is a host of different bio-control agents provided here in Washington State. It is important to note that not all bio-control agents found online are approved for release here in Washington State. For species that are safe and approved through the proper channels and field-testing visit WSU Integrated Weed Control Project website at: <http://invasives.wsu.edu/biological/index.htm>

Tansy ragwort flea beetle (*Longitarsus jacobaeae*)

Weed association:

Tansy ragwort (*Jacobaeae vulgaris*)
Class B regulated



- **ID:** Adults are small, golden-brown or coppery-colored beetles, 2-4 mm (approx. 1/16 to 1/8 in) long, with enlarged hindlegs for hopping. Larvae are small, slender, white grubs found on or in the roots.
- **How it works:** Larva feed on root system lessening nutrient reserves. Adults feed on leaves. Feeding occurs on rosette during fall/winter months with effects observed in spring months.
- **Release timeframe:** September through November.