

## Russian Olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*)



- Description: - Class C**
- Perennial tree or large shrub
  - Trunk is gray or brown, sometimes course or scaly
  - Leaves dull to gray-green with silvery underside
  - Extensive root systems with root crown and creeping perennial roots
  - Reproduces from seeds (small green "Olive looking") and
- Habitat:**
- Grasslands, rangelands, woodlands, desert, and especially riparian areas
  - Disturbed areas – roadsides, ditches, open fields
- Treatment:**
- Herbicides are effective
  - Mechanical is effective

## Saltcedar (*Tamarix* spp.)



- Description: - Class C**
- Small shrub or tree
  - Rough reddish-brown bark, numerous dense, thin stems
  - Small scale-like green/blue-green leaves
  - Flowers are long racemes with numerous small flowers that are white to pink/purple
  - 5-25 ft height
- Habitat:**
- Riparian area such as rivers, streams, lakes, irrigation ditches
  - Roadsides and rangeland
- Treatment:**
- Mechanical is effective if the root crown is removed
  - Herbicides are effective
  - Burning is NOT effective

## Tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*)



- Description: - Class B**
- Deciduous tree that can tolerate shade and harsh soil conditions
  - Erect with single trunk. Small trees have smooth, gray-brown bark, larger trees, rough bark
  - Leaves pinnate-divided and 10-22 pairs of opposite leaflets
  - Flowers in bunches, small, greenish-yellow to white
  - Seed pods are flat, single seed, straw to reddish brown color, grow in bunches
- Habitat:**
- Disturbed areas – fields, ditches, and roads as well as riparian areas and woodlands.
- Treatment:**
- Healthy plant community
  - Mechanical removal effective only if root crown and lateral roots are removed
  - Herbicides are effective

## Spiny cocklebur (*Xanthium spinosum*)



- Description:**
- Annual
  - Stems are branched, with yellow spines at the base of the leaf
  - Leaves are lanceolate, with the underside covered in dense white hairs, and one main vein
  - Have both male and female flowers on the same plant
  - Male flowers are small, green, and in clusters
  - Female flowers are spiny with 2 flowers that harden into prickly
- Habitat:**
- Disturbed areas – ditches, roads, fields, pastures, riparian areas
- Treatment:**
- Mechanical removal effective if burs develop
  - DO NOT cut and leave the plants with immature burs, they can still develop into viable seed
  - Herbicides are effective

## Camelthorn (*Alhagi maurorum*)



- Description: - Class A**
- Perennial - unpalatable
  - Multiple green stems with fine branching
  - Narrow to oblong leaves
  - Pea-like flowers that are pink, purple, or white
  - Extensive root system, can reproduce through roots or seeds (roots from up to 25 ft away) 1-4 ft height
- Habitat:**
- Semi-arid areas, rivers, floodplains
  - Disturbed areas – fields, ditches, roads
- Treatment:**
- Healthy plant community
  - Hand removal including most of root system
  - Herbicides are effective
  - Mechanical can spread root

## Sources and References

Common Rangeland Plants of the Texas Panhandle. Provided by NRCS and partners.

Ashign, Jamshid; Wanstall, James; and Sholedice, Frank, *Troublesome Weeds of New Mexico*. Las Cruces, NM: New Mexico State University College of Agriculture, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, 2010.

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Plants Database. United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 2015. <http://plants.usda.gov/>

NSW WeedWise. Primary Industries Agriculture, 2015. <http://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/>

"Noxious Weeds in Quay County" Power point 2015. Relissa Niles, Northeast Area Agronomist, Natural Resource Conservation Service.

Plant Location: \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Us**  
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**WANTED!**  
**!Dead or Alive!**



## Noxious and Invasive Weeds of Quay County



If you have an information leading to the whereabouts of these plants please contact the Quay County Extension Office at 575-461-0562.

## Halogeton (*Halogeton glomeratus*)



### Description: - Class B

- Annual forb
- Stems are branched at the base, often purple or red
- Leaves are dull green to blue-green, look like fleshy cylinders
- Flowers – dense bunches at leaf axil, no true petal, greenish-yellow to red in color
- 2-18 in height

### Habitat:

- Disturbed areas – fields, ditches,

roads, pastures especially arid area with high alkaline or salt

### Toxic:

- All parts of plant are toxic to livestock (oxalates) if ingested, especially sheep

### Treatment:

- Healthy plant community, poor competitor
- Mechanical removal effective for small infestations
- Herbicides are effective

## Musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*)



Photo Courtesy of Steve Dewey, Utah State

### Description: - Class B

- Biennial
- Very large pink to purple flowers
- Leaves are dark green with a light green center and spiny margins
- 2-6 ft height

### Habitat:

- Open areas, disturbed areas, ditches, roadsides, stream banks
- Crowds out native vegetation

### Treatment:

- Mechanical – cut roots below soil surface and remove stems before flowering
- Herbicides are effective
- DO NOT – use fire or mow during/after flowering

## Rayless Goldenrod (*Haplopappus heterophyllus*)



### Description: - Poisonous

- Low-growing half-shrub
- Erect stems and woody crown
- Flowers are yellow, small, bunches at tip of stems
- 2-4 ft height

### Habitat:

- Dry rangelands, river valleys, drainages

### Toxic:

- Poisonous to all livestock
- Toxic agent is "tremetone"

- Toxic year round
- Lethal dose 1.0 to 1.5 percent of animal's weight over 2-3 weeks

### Signs of poisoning:

- Trembling of Muscles
- Constipation, vomiting, labored breathing, dribbling of urine
- Stiffness, weakness in forelegs

### Treatment:

- Hand dig including crown
- Herbicides are effective

## Spotted knapweed (*Centaurea stoebe*)



### Description: - Class A

- Biennial to short lived perennial
- Leaves often grayish hairs
- Single flower head, usually pinkish-purple, sometimes white
- Below flowers are green bracts with dark brown to black comb-like tip
- Up to 4 ft height

### Habitat:

- Disturbed areas – fields, ditches, roads, rangeland

### Treatment:

- Mechanical must remove 3-4 in of root crown
- Introduced biological control agents
- Herbicides are effective

## Hoary Cress (*Lepidium draba*)



### Description: - Class A

- Perennial – 3 species in NM
- Mostly single stems that are hairy with some branching near top
- Leaves are alternate, gray-green, oblong to narrow, sometimes hairy and are round, oval or heart-shaped
- Flower are numerous small, white, with 4 petals
- Seed pods are round, oval or heart-shaped
- 6-24 in height

### Habitat:

- Irrigated pastures, rangeland, hay fields and disturbed areas

### Treatment:

- Repeated cultivation 1-2 times per month for 2-4 yrs
- Mechanical removal must remove root system
- Mowing in early flower growth stage may reduce seed production
- Herbicides are effective

## Perennial Pepperweed (*Lepidium latifolium*)



### Description: - Class B

- Creeping herbaceous perennial
- Numerous semi-woody stems, waxy with some branching near top
- Leaves are green to gray-green, oval to narrow, and do not clasp stem
- Flowers are small, white with 4 petals to form a dense inflorescence that are rounded on top
- 2-5 ft height

### Habitat:

- Riparian areas, irrigation ditches, floodplains, and wetlands

### Treatment:

- Healthy plant community, poor competitor
- Hand pulling all roots and seedlings
- Mowing is NOT effective control
- Herbicides are effective

## Russian knapweed (*Rhaponticum repens*)



### Description: - Class B

- Herbaceous perennial
- Numerous branching stems
- Lower leaves are alternate and lobed or wavy margins
- Upper leaves are linear or lanceolate, that are green to light green
- Leaves and stems covered with dense gray hairs
- Flower heads are round with pink, purple, or white flowers. Below flowers are numerous green, papery bracts

- 1-3 ft height

### Habitat:

- Pastures, degraded croplands, alfalfa fields, rangelands, roadsides, riparian areas, irrigation ditches

### Treatment:

- Prevention and early detection, large infestations are extremely hard to control
- Maintain a healthy plant community
- Herbicides are effective

## Yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*)



### Description: - Class A

- Annual
- Stiff, wiry stems that are branched
- Flower heads found at stem ends, with yellow flower and stiff, sharp, straw colored bracts (spines) below flower
- 1-6 ft height

### Habitat:

- Disturbed areas – fields, ditches, roads, pastures

### Toxic:

- Toxic to horses if consumed
- Treatment:
- Healthy plant community
- Frequent cultivation is effective
- Herbicides are effective
- Mow in late bud or early bloom to reduce seed production
- Burning is effective if done before seed production