

Kansas' Noxious Weeds

Category A



Leafy Spurge
(Euphorbia virgate)



Hoary Cress
(Lepidium draba L.)



Quackgrass
(Elymus repens)



Kudzu
(Pueraria montana var. lobata)



Russian Knapweed
(Rhaponticum repens)



Spotted Knapweed
(Centaurea Stoebe)



Diffuse Knapweed
(Centaurea diffusa)

Category B



Canada Thistle
(Cirsium arvense)



Common Teasel
(Dipsacus fullonum)



Cutleaf Teasel
(Dipsacus laciniatus)



Field Bindweed
(Convolvulus arvensis)



Sericea Lespedeza
(Lespedeza cuneata)



Amur Honeysuckle
(Lonicera maackii)



Click on QR Code to learn more about Kansas noxious weeds.

Category A: Limited distribution in Kansas, subject to active eradication to prevent establishment.

Category B: Discrete distributions in Kansas, subject to control wherever established and subject to active eradication wherever not established.

Category C: Well-established in larger populations in Kansas. New populations subject to control efforts and established populations shall be managed by approved control methods.

Category C



Musk Thistle
(Carduus nutans)




Johnsongrass
(Sorghum halepense)



Bur Ragweed
(Ambrosia grayii)

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Category A Noxious Weeds	Category B Noxious Weeds	Category C Noxious Weeds
<p>Leafy Spurge — A perennial that has a yellowish, flower-like disk below greenish flowers and a milky sap that is toxic to cattle. Leafy spurge is found in disturbed locations mostly in northern Kansas.</p>	<p>Canada Thistle — A thorny perennial capable of growing 3-5 feet tall with a spreading root system. The pink flower heads occur on separate plants. It is found on disturbed sites mostly in northwest Kansas.</p>	<p>Field Bindweed — A perennial vine with arrowhead-shaped leaves and white to pink bell-shaped flowers. This plant is found throughout Kansas and spreads via an extensive fleshy root system and by seed.</p>
<p>Hoary Cress — A perennial forb which spreads via seed and its creeping root system. The leaves wrap around the hairy stems and white flowers occur at the stem tips. Found mostly in northern Kansas.</p>	<p>Common Teasel — A biennial or short-lived perennial with prickly, 2-8 feet tall stems. The stem leaves are large, toothed, and slightly fused at their base. Clusters of purplish flowers occur on egg-shaped heads.</p>	<p>Sericea Lespedeza — A short-lived perennial that has cream-colored flowers with purple markings and leaves with three parts. It is common in rangelands and prairies throughout eastern Kansas, especially in the southeast.</p>
<p>Quackgrass — A perennial cool-season grass. The base of each leaf blade has a pair of tiny appendages that fold around the stem. Found in scattered locations throughout Kansas, the grass spreads via seed and a spreading root system.</p>	<p>Cutleaf Teasel — A biennial or short-lived perennial with prickly, 3-9 feet tall stems. The leaves are large, lobed, opposite, and usually fused at their base forming cups around the stem that hold water. Clusters of white flowers on egg-shaped heads.</p>	<p>Amur Honeysuckle — A shrub that grows to 15 feet. The leaves are opposite and unlobed. Flowers are white, and showy. The leaves, flowers, and small red berries all grow in pairs along the branches.</p>
<p>Kudzu — A perennial vine that has large three-parted leaves and reddish flowers. Introduced as erosion control on mined lands in southeast Kansas, it's now found in only a few scattered areas of the state.</p>	<p>Category A: Limited distribution in Kansas, subject to active to prevent establishment.</p> <p>Category B: Discrete distributions in Kansas, subject to control wherever established and subject to active eradication wherever not established.</p> <p>Category C: Well-established in larger populations in Kansas. New populations subject to control efforts and established populations shall be managed by approved control methods.</p>	<p>Musk Thistle — A biennial that is found throughout Kansas. The plant forms a rosette of spiny, white-edged leaves the first year. The second year the plant sends up a stalk with spiny, purplish flower heads.</p>
<p>Russian Knapweed — A perennial forb found sporadically in Kansas, this plant has pink or purplish flower heads and forms dense stands from an extensive root system. This plant is toxic to horses if eaten.</p>		<p>Johnsongrass — A perennial warm-season grass. It spreads aggressively by seeds and by thick, scaly rhizomes. Found throughout Kansas, along roads, ditches, and field edges.</p>
<p>Spotted Knapweed — A short-lived perennial that stands from 1 foot to 4 feet tall. The base of the flower head has small bracts with dark tips, giving it a spotted appearance. Flower color can vary between plants. Found in northeastern Kansas.</p>		<p>Bur Ragweed — A native perennial in western Kansas. The plant has an aggressive root system that spreads over large areas. The leaves are covered with silvery-gray hairs and the fruit have slender spines with hooked tips.</p>
<p>Diffuse Knapweed — A biennial or short-lived perennial that grows 2-3 feet tall. Each flower head is surrounded by small bracts that are fringed. The flowers are usually white but the color may vary. Not currently found in Kansas.</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">Kansas Noxious Weed Law (K.S.A. 2-1313a) Requires landowners to control all noxious weeds on their property. For more information call the Kansas Department of Agriculture or your County Weed Director. agriculture.ks.gov/NoxiousWeeds</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;">  <div style="text-align: right;"> <p>Kansas Department of Agriculture Plant Protection and Weed Control 1320 Research Park Drive Manhattan, KS 66502 785-564-6698 agriculture.ks.gov/NoxiousWeeds</p> </div> </div>