

Invasive Species Factsheet-Yellow Toadflax

Prepared by: Aaron Ide

Species Common Name: Yellow Toadflax

Species Scientific Name: *Linaria vulgaris*

Native Range and Introduction: Yellow Toadflax is native to Eurasia and was first introduced into the New England area of the United States in 1600's as an ornamental species. It is still being sold places as an ornamental species, which is primarily how it has spread across the United States, locally it is moved by human and animal activities.

Description: Short growing perennial that can reach heights of three feet, but rarely do. The plant reproduces by both seeds and rhizomes. Leaves are short, narrow, pointed, and dark green in color. The snapdragon type flowers have long spurs and bright yellow middle with a paler yellowish white portion surrounding it. Its roots appear woody and form rhizomes which produced many above ground stems.

Ecological and Economical Threats: As the species outcompetes native vegetation and forms a dense monoculture, biodiversity is lost along with an increase in soil erosion and surface runoff. This species can lead to yield losses in crops like wheat and barley and can reduce carry capacity of pastures and rangeland by up to 30 percent. Also, can be a winter carrier of viruses that harm cucumbers and wheat.

Regulated Status in Wyoming: Yellow Toadflax is on the State Designated Noxious Species List and is also on the North American Invasive Species Management Association Weed Free Forage Noxious Species List that Wyoming uses for weed free forage standards.

Distribution in Wyoming: This species is found in all counties in Wyoming, but Sweetwater and Weston.

Control Options:

Mechanical: Aggressive root system and rhizomes make this species not ideal for mechanical control, continued application may help some but likely will need to be teamed with some other option.

Chemical: The two primary range and pasture herbicides are Tordon 22K (Picloram) or Telar XP (Chlorosulfuron). In a lawn and garden situation a combination of Banvel (Dicamba) and 2,4-D could work, but multiple applications will probably need to be made.

Biological: The Toadflax Seed Weevil can be released on this species, some studies show a reduction up to 90% of the plants seed. Also aggressive stocking with sheep or goats is an option to control seed production.

Integrated Weed Management: Could include an aggressive stocking rate of goats in the early summer on an infestation then an application of herbicide, when growth begins again from the root system.

Online Resources:

URL: <http://www.invasiveplantatlas.org/subject.html?sub=3800>

URL: <http://www.cabi.org/isc/datasheet/30828/aqb>

URL: <https://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/plants/yellowtoadflax.shtml>

Image 1 URL: <https://www.invasive.org/browse/detail.cfm?imgnum=1459822>

Image 2 URL: <https://www.invasive.org/browse/detail.cfm?imgnum=5386526>



Image 1-Seedlings and woody rhizomatous roots



Image 2-Flowering Plant

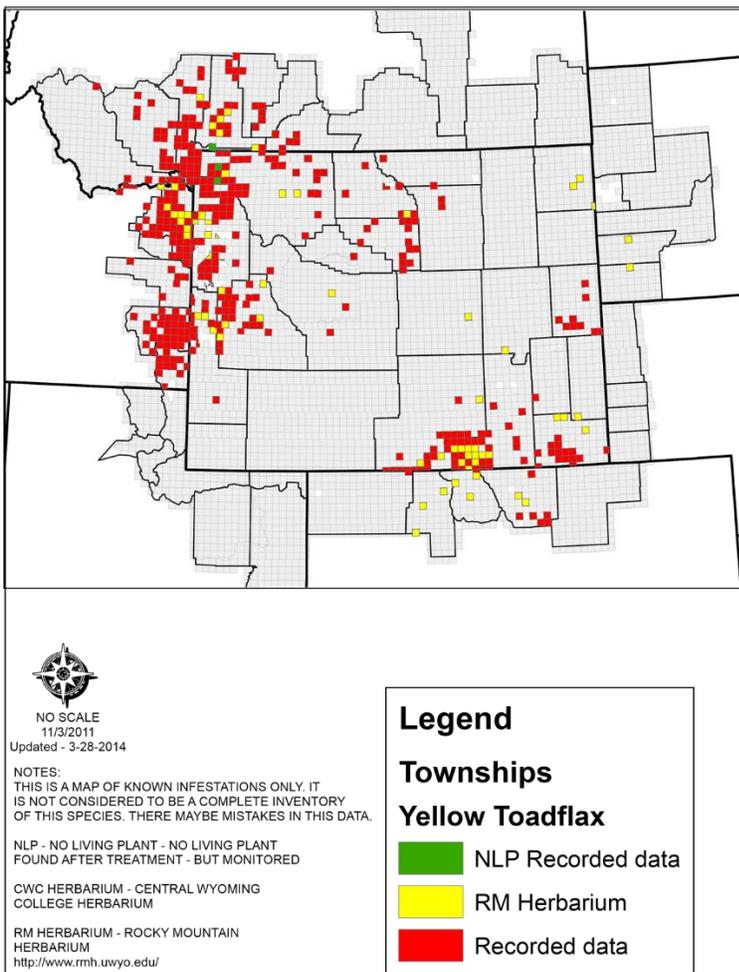


Figure 1-Yellow Toadflax Distribution in Wyoming and Surrounding States
URL: http://wyoweed.org/images/Weed_Maps/Yellow_toadflax.pdf