

Invasive Species Factsheet-Garlic Mustard

Prepared by: Aaron Ide

Species Common Name: Garlic Mustard

Species Scientific Name: *Alliaria petiolata*

Native Range and Introduction: This species is native to Europe, and was introduced into the United States in the 1800's as a medicinal and food herb. It was first discovered in the wild in 1868. It is primarily spread as a hitchhiker on humans, animals, and equipment.

Description: This biennial plant grows to a rosette the first year before bolting the second year to a height of up to four feet tall. The plant has deeply veined heart shaped leaves the first year, which turn more triangular shaped at maturity. Flowers are in a cluster at the top of the plant are white in color and have four petals. The plant can produce up to 3,000 seeds. The plant will use allelopathic compounds to prevent other species from germinating. Garlic Mustard is extremely shade tolerant and can grow under almost a full canopy. The crushed foliage smells of garlic, which is where it gets its name.

Ecological and Economic Impacts: Ecologically the species can spread into healthy forest once established nearby, this can cause loss of native understory flora, and can prevent seedling tree species from germinating and growing, stopping to the production of that ecosystem. Economically, if the forested area is in timber production it can cause the area to stop producing trees for future logging.

Regulated Status in Wyoming: Garlic Mustard is not regulated in Wyoming, but it is on the Wyoming Weed and Pest Council's EDRR Committee bounty list giving any person a \$100 reward for finding any new infestation.

Distribution in Wyoming: Garlic Mustard has only been found in Crook County (2015) near Devils Tower.

Control Options:

Mechanical: Hand pulling, chopping, and cutting can be used effectively on this species for small infestations.

Chemical: Depending on the situation some options would be RoundUp (Glyphosate), Garlon 4 (Triclopyr), and 2, 4-D.

Cultural: Burning and replanting areas could be an option.

Biological: There is not currently any biocontrol agents available for this species.

Integrated Weed Management: A spring prescribed burn, with a mid-summer herbicide application, and a fall mechanical clean up should work well to control an infestation of this species.

Online Resources:

URL: <http://www.invasiveplantatlas.org/subject.html?sub=3005>

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

URL: <https://na.fs.fed.us/spfo/invasiveplants/factsheets/pdf/garlic-mustard.pdf>

Image 1 URL: <https://www.invasive.org/browse/detail.cfm?imgnum=1380161>

Image 2 URL: <https://www.invasive.org/browse/detail.cfm?imgnum=1330037>



Image 1-Flowering Plant



Image 2-First Year Rosette

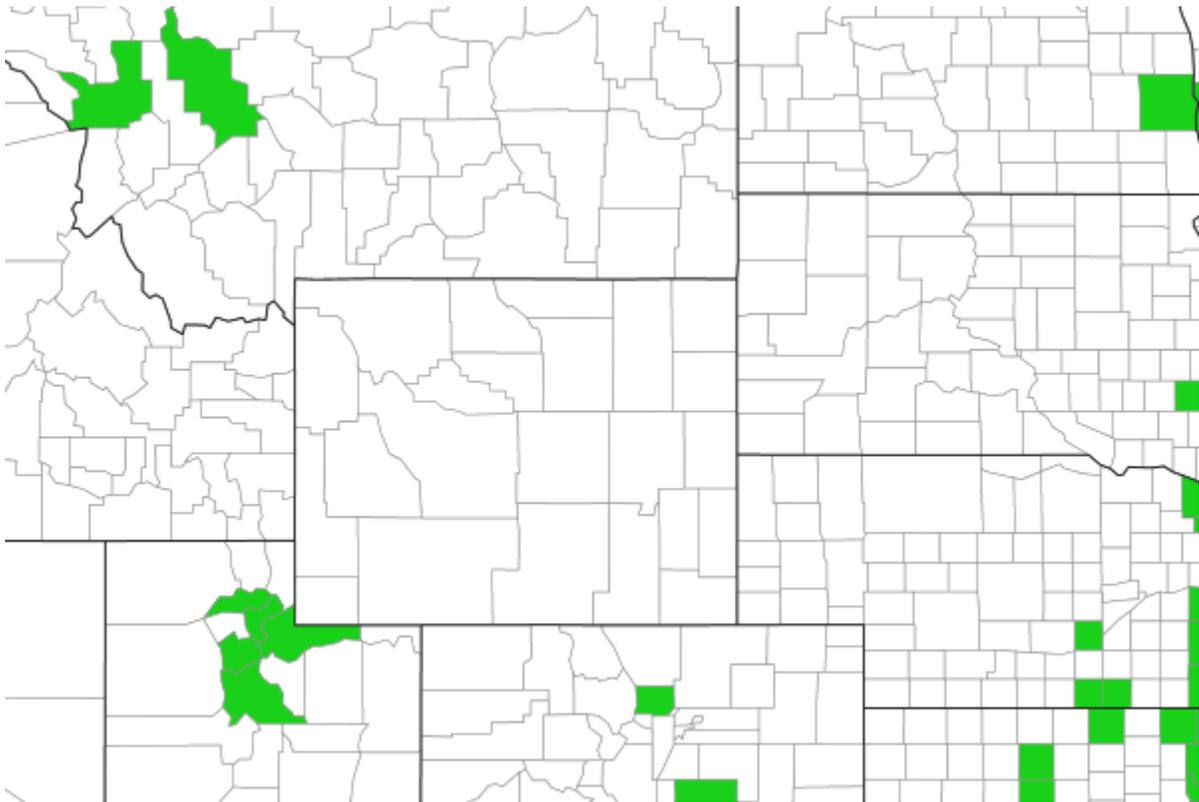


Figure 1-Garlic Mustard distribution in Wyoming and surrounding states
URL: <http://www.eddmaps.org/distribution/uscounty.cfm?sub=3005>