# **Control of Absinth Wormwood**

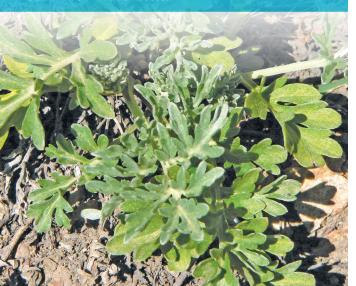
#### **PREVENTION:**

- Minimize soil disturbance from vehicles and machinery.
- Avoid over grazing in pastures.
- Monitor your property, so early detection will prevent a large invasion.
- Good perennial grass will help to resist infestation of absinth wormwood.

#### **MECHANICAL CONTROL:**

- Tillage can prevent establishment of absinth wormwood in crop production areas.
- Hand pulling or digging when soil is moist, making sure to remove ALL of the roots.
- Mowing may prevent seed production if mowed several times thoughout the growing season.
   Unfortunately most areas infested with absinth wormwood are not easily accessible with a mower.

#### Absinth Wormwood rosette



#### **HERBICIDE CONTROL:**

TechLine Invasive Plant News recommends the following herbicide options for absinth wormwood:

5-7 ounces of Milestone™ per acre; Milestone is labeled for rangeland, CRP, roadsides, natural areas.

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1.5 – 2 pints of GrazonNext® HL per acre; be sure to read the label, as there are grazing restrictions with this product.

> Or 2/3 pint Transline® per acre.

Herbicide control is most effective when the plant is 12-24 inches tall. Mature plants are much more difficult to control.

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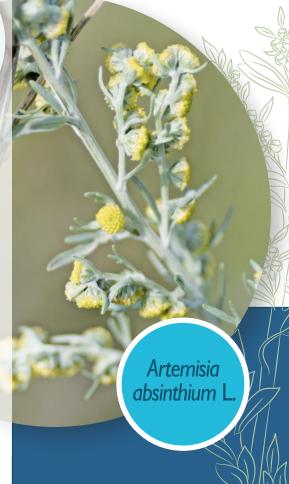
2018

Photo credits: Chris Evans, U I / Bugwood.org; Mitch Coffin, NE Dept. of Ag.; K. George Beck & James Sebastian, CSU; Kristi Paul, Sheridan Co. NE.

Citations: University of Nevada Cooperative Extension; www.co.lincoln.wa.us



NEBRASKA WATCH LIST WEED



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### **GROWTH FORM:**

Forb

**LIFE SPAN:** Perennial, absinth wormwood is a prolific seed producer, but can also spread by short roots.

**ORIGIN:** Europe

**HEIGHT:** 4-5 feet tall



**LEAVES:** Olive green, 2-5 inches long, divided into deeply lobed leaflets. Leaves and stems are covered with fine silky hairs that give the plant a grayish appearance. Absinth wormwood has a strong sage odor.



## **FLOWERING DATES:**

July to mid-September

**FLOWERS:** Dull inconspicuous yellow flowers



**SEEDS:** One absinth wormwood plant can produce 25,000 seeds, which may remain viable for 3-4 years in the seed bank.



**UNDERGROUND:** Woody lower stems and base, with large woody taproot

Absinth wormwood was added to the Nebraska Watch List in all ecoregions of the state in 2018.

It is on the noxious weed list in South Dakota, North Dakota and Colorado. We hope that with early detection and rapid response, we can keep this non-native invasive plant from becoming established in Nebraska.



the main ingredient in the drink named Absinthe.

ingredient 'thujone' can produce bizarre and

psychotic behavior, hallucinations and delirium.

Due to its toxicity it was banned in several countries

in the early 20th Century, because it's psychoactive

# OTHER FACTS ABOUT ABSINTH WORMWOOD

Poisoning: Although livestock tend to avoid absinth wormwood, if forced to eat it, all parts of the plant are very toxic.