



Control of Common & Cutleaf Teasel

PREVENTION:

Do not plant teasel or intentionally move soil where teasel grows. Minimize soil disturbance from vehicles and machinery.

MECHANICAL CONTROL:

- Teasel can be controlled with digging or cultivation.
- Be sure to remove the root crown when digging, to prevent re-sprouting.
- Avoid cutting stalks prior to flowering, as the plants will re-sprout and flower again.
- Mowing and prescribed burning are NOT effective methods.

HERBICIDE CONTROL:

The 2018 Guide for Weed, Disease and Insect Management in Nebraska (EC130) recommends the following options for herbicide control of teasel:

32 oz. 2,4-D

- OR -

3 – 4 pints of Garlon® 3A

- OR -

4 – 8 oz. Overdrive®

All herbicides recommended to be applied at rosette stage, spring or fall. **Any herbicide that controls a biennial thistle such as musk thistle, will also work well on teasel.** Re-application may be necessary, and monitoring the area for several years is important.



The base of the cutleaf teasel stem leaves are usually curved up, forming a cup that holds rainwater.



FUNDING FOR THIS BROCHURE PROVIDED
BY THE NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
RIPARIAN VEGETATION MANAGEMENT GRANT FUND.

Photo credits: Steve Dewey, USU, Bugwood.org; Chris Evans, U I, Bugwood.org; Robert Videki, Dronicum Kft. Bugwood.org; Barry Rice, sarracenia.com, Bugwood.org; Brent Meyer, Lancaster County Weed Control

Citations: TechLine Invasive Plant News: UNL Extension;
Minnesota Dept. of Agriculture

CUTLEAF TEASEL

Dipsacus laciniatus L.

NEBRASKA
WATCH LIST
WEEDS



COMMON TEASEL

Dipsacus fullonum L.

NEWMAC

Nebraska Weed Management
Area Coalition



LIFE SPAN: Teasels are biennial (produce seed only once in a lifetime). They form a basal rosette for at least one year. It produces a flowering stalk, which blooms from June through September. After flowering and producing seed, the plant will die, completing the plant's normal life cycle.

ORIGIN: Common and cutleaf teasel are native to Europe.

HEIGHT: 2 – 7 feet tall



LEAVES: Rosette leaves are wrinkled with scalloped edges. They are spiny along the underside of the leaf. Leaves on the flower stems are prickly, long and pointed, with a distinctive white midvein, arranged in opposite pairs on the stem.



FLOWERING DATES:

June through September: teasel can flower throughout the season.

FLOWERS: Common teasel has pale purple flowers, while cutleaf teasel has white flowers growing in bands or rings on large, egg-shaped, spiny heads. The cone-like flower heads can be up to 4 inches tall, occur singly on the tops of stems, and are persistent long after the seeds form. Under the flower heads are long, narrow, prickly bracts that curve upward and form a "cage."



SEEDS: Each teasel plant is capable of producing over 3,000 seeds. Most seeds fall near the parent plant, but they can be moved by water, soil movement, mowers, animals, etc. The seeds remain viable for at least 2 years.



WHERE FOUND IN NEBRASKA:

Common teasel has been found in 14 counties in Nebraska. Cutleaf teasel has been found in 17 counties in Nebraska. Teasel invades wetlands, roadsides, pastures and vacant or unmanaged land.

USES: Teasel has been used for decorative purposes in floral arrangements.

UNDERGROUND: Teasel produces a deep taproot, up to 2 feet long, and an inch wide at the crown.



Common teasel rosette... for excellent results, control at this stage of growth.



OTHER FACTS ABOUT TEASEL

- Although teasel does not spread rapidly, it is persistent. The teasels form large, dense stands that choke out desirable plant species. This can reduce forage, wildlife habitat, and species diversity. One contributing factor of the increase of common teasel may be the interstate highway system which provides acres and acres of connected, with low-maintenance, and disturbed areas tailor-made for teasel.
- Both common and cutleaf teasel have been added as noxious weeds in Lancaster & Pawnee Counties in Nebraska.