

# Oxeye daisy Fact Sheet

*Leucanthemum vulgare*

Asteraceae Family



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## Distinguishing Features:

- ❶ **Flowers:** White daisy like flowers.
- ❷ **Seeds:** A single plant can produce up to 40 stems, and up to 200 seeds. Oxeye daisy can spread both vegetatively and by seed.
- ❸ **Leaves:** Leaves are 1-4 inches long and toothed or lobed and have a disagreeable odor when crushed.
- ❹ **Flowering Time:** All summer.
- ❺ **Life cycle:** Oxeye daisy is a perennial and can grow 1-3 feet tall.

## Impacts:

- Oxeye daisy is native to Europe and was introduced into the United States as an ornamental in the 1800s.
- Invades pastures, fields, meadows, forests, and waste areas.
- Oxeye daisy can thrive in a wide variety of soil types and can grow in sun to partial shade.
- The plants form dense infestations and decrease species diversity. They have been shown to carry several crop diseases.



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## Control:

- In pastures, mowing as soon as the first flowers open can eliminate seed production. However, mowing may stimulate shoot production and subsequent flowering.
- Because of its shallow root system, oxeye daisy is easily killed by intensive cultivation.
- Picloram and 2, 4-D are effective at reducing canopy cover of oxeye daisy. However, based on a study in an eastern Washington mountain meadow, application of nitrogen fertilizer was almost as effective as the herbicides at reducing canopy cover of oxeye daisy.
- Effective biocontrol insects or pathogens have not been found for oxeye daisy because of several compounds within the plant that are generally highly toxic to insect herbivores.



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