

# Yellow toadflax Fact Sheet

*Linaria vulgaris*

Scrophulariaceae Family



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## Distinguishing Features:

- ② **Flowers:** Yellow snapdragon-like flowers with orange throats, crowded at the top of the stem.
- ② **Seeds:** Black to brown seeds with a papery wing, held in a capsule. Yellow toadflax can reproduce by seeds and by its horizontal rootstalks which send up new shoots.
- ③ **Leaves:** Light green linear leaves arranged alternately along the stem. The plant has a bad smell.
- ④ **Flowering Time:** June - September
- ⑤ **Life cycle:** Perennial that grows 8 to 31 inches tall from creeping roots, often forming colonies.

## Impacts:

- Invades roadsides, edges of fields, rangelands, meadows, cultivated fields and wastelands.
- Yellow toadflax competes with desirable plants and reduces their yield. It is seldom eaten by livestock.

## Control:

- Overall, all toadflax species are difficult to control and management plans should integrate as many strategies as possible to increase potential for success.
- For small infestations, or single plants, digging and monitoring for new plants is imperative.
- For larger infestations, chemical applications using the herbicides Tordon 22K, Picloram, or Telar, have shown to have higher levels of success when applied to the flowering stage over multiple years. Yellow toadflax usually recovers from single applications.
- Several classical biocontrol agents are available to use against toadflaxes, including a flower-feeding beetle and seed capsule weevil. Unfortunately, an ideal yellow toadflax biological control agent has yet to be identified; the approved agents discussed above can contribute to the overall erosion of the weed's fitness, and therefore merit consideration when an integrated weed management approach is adopted against this species.



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