

Invasive Weed Watch

Have you seen any of these plants?

If so, notify the Kansas Department of Agriculture's Plant Protection and Weed Control program.



**PURPLE
LOOSESTRIFE**



HYDRILLA



**SPOTTED
KNAPWEED**



**DIFFUSE
KNAPWEED**



**EXOTIC
KNOTWEEDS**



**BLACK
SWALLOW-WORT**



**YELLOW
TOADFLAX**



**DALMATIAN
TOADFLAX**



**JAPANESE
HONEYSUCKLE**



**EXOTIC BUSH
HONEYSUCKLES**

Key identifying features:

Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) – Flowers have 6 petals, square stems with opposite leaves.

Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) – Hydrilla's small leaves are strap-like and pointed. They grow in whorls of four to eight around the stem. The leaf margins are distinctly saw-toothed. Hydrilla often has one or more sharp teeth along the length of the leaf mid-rib.

Spotted knapweed (*Centaurea biebersteinii*) – Flowers pink to purple, rarely white, disc florets. Bracts have 5-7 pairs of comb like teeth, no spine at bract tip. Leaves alternate on stem ½ to 2 inches long.

Diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*) – Flowers white to rose or purple. Bracts have comb like teeth with a distinct terminal spine. Leaves similar to spotted knapweed.

Exotic Knotweeds (*Polygonum* spp.) – Three related species with bamboo-like stems up to 16 feet in height and form large, dense thickets that shade out desirable species.

Black Swallow-wort (*Cynanchum louiseae*) – Herbaceous, perennial vine that grows 3-8 feet high. Its leaves are dark green and shiny, opposite, 2-5 inches long and oval with pointed tips. Flowers are tiny and dark purple with 5 pointed, downy, triangular petals that are as long as they are wide. Seedpods are milkweed-like, slender and tapered and 1.5-3 inches long.

Yellow toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*) – Bright yellow flowers with an orange throat and long spur. Linear leaves with a narrow stem.

Dalmatian toadflax (*Linaria genistifolia* spp. *dalmatica*) – Bright yellow flowers with a long spur and heart shaped leaves that clasp the stem.

Japanese Honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*) - Perennial vine that climbs trees and power poles. Leaves are opposite, narrow and smooth-edged. Flower are white to yellow and very ornate in shape.

Exotic Bush Honeysuckle (*Lonicera* spp.) – These three closely related species are aggressively invading the understory of woodlands, out-competing the native species. They are all deciduous shrubs that grow from 6 to 15 feet tall and have narrow, dark green leaves. The flowers vary in color from creamy white to pink or crimson.

If you suspect you have found one of these plants:

1. Collect a specimen including roots if possible and press between sheets of newspaper.
2. Photograph the plant at the site.
3. Record the location noting landmarks along with the legal description
4. Describe the type of land use (cropland, road ditch, waste area, stream bank).
5. Describe the location (rocky, wet, dry, sandy).
6. Contact the state weed specialist at the Kansas Department of Agriculture's Plant Protection and Weed Control program.

Kansas Department of Agriculture • Plant Protection and Weed Control
P.O. Box 19282 • Forbes Field, Building 282 • Topeka, KS 66619-0282
(785) 862-2180 • (785) 862-2182 (fax) • www.ksda.gov