

## Noxious Weeds

There are a number of noxious weeds within the RM that are recognized by the Government of Saskatchewan. These are plants that are not native to the land and can cause serious damage to people, animals, and native plant life. There are five in total that the RM is particularly concerned with, but others are present in our area.

### Scentless Chamomile

It also goes by Wild Daisy, scentless mayweed, false chamomile, Kandahar daisy or barnyard daisy. Historically it was used ornamentally and while it is not poisonous it can quickly spread rapidly during wet years. It is found in disturbed, moist areas including roadsides, farmyards, sloughs, cropland, pastures, utility rights-of-way, shelterbelts, drainage ditches, and waste areas. The plant has very little feed value and can cause loss of yield in oil seed, pulse, cereal, and forage crops. It can be controlled by cutting early and continuously. For more information [CLICK HERE](#).



### Bull Thistle

Is a prickly pest. Bull Thistle while not poisonous will choke out native plant life. The spines on the stem of the plant are very sharp and can cause irritation to skin and inside animal's mouths. It has a two year life span. The first year being just the leaves while the second year is when the flower grows and flowers. Seeds are spread by the wind and flower around July and August. It does not take cultivation well. For more information [CLICK HERE](#).



### **Absinthe Wormwood**

Also known as absinthe, wormwood, and wormwood sage. It is found in dry soils, overgrazed pastures and rangelands, waste places, ditches, ravines, borrow pits, gravel piles, and fence lines. And while it is not poisonous and is an herb used in medicine in Europe. It causes problems in livestock and for native plant life.

Absinthe will taint dairy products if it is eaten by dairy cattle in either pasture or hay. It has also been associated reproductive problems. Once the plant has become established it is very difficult to get rid of. Flour and other grain products can also become tainted should leaves or seeds find a way into them. In humans the pollen can cause hay fever as it is carried by the wind and the odour can cause discomfort in some people. It does not like to be frequently disturbed so weeding and mowing can help to manage it. For more information [CLICK HERE](#).



### **Leafy Spurge**

Leafy Spurge is a cluster plant that flowers at the end of June and continue into the fall. A milky latex sap is produced when stem or leaves are torn. It is a highly competitive plant takes over land by releasing toxins that prevent other plants from growing nearby. It will easily out-compete native and forage plant species. There have also been instances of it being toxic to horses and cattle. It can be controlled chemically but that can become very costly. Biological control using beetles has been the most successful. For more information [CLICK HERE](#).



We would also like to remind people that Dandelions are not noxious weeds. While they may be considered undesirable by some they are not considered noxious under The Weed Control Act. To read the Weed Control Act [CLICK HERE](#).

For the full Saskatchewan Invasive Plant Species Identification Guide [CLICK HERE](#).