



# DALMATIAN TOADFLAX

*Linaria dalmatica*



- \* Other names: Broad-leaved toadflax
- \* Dalmatian Toadflax is a Class B Designate noxious weed.
- \* Dalmatian Toadflax is a short-lived perennial herb from the Scrophulariaceae Family and spreads by horizontal or creeping rootstocks and by seed.
- \* Dalmatian toadflax stands from 2.5 to 5 feet tall. Its waxy, light green, alternate leaves are heart shaped and clasp the woody branching stems. Blooms appear from May to August and are bright yellow, tinged with orange, and closely resemble snapdragons. The petals have 2 lips; the upper lip has 2 lobes, and the lower has 3 lobes. The root system may be as deep as six feet and may spread laterally as much as ten feet.

- \* It grows along roadsides, in pastures, idle land, and

rangeland, particularly in sites with coarse-textured soils. Its extensive root system allows the plant to survive in adverse soils and climatic conditions. It contains a poisonous glucoside that is harmful to livestock if consumed in large quantities.

- \* D.T. seedlings are poor competitors for soil moisture against established plants, but once established they become extremely competitive and substantially affect the surrounding vegetation. A mature plant can produce up to 500,000 seeds a year which are primarily dispersed by wind.

## CONTROL OPTIONS

- \* Preventing the establishment of populations of Dalmatian toadflax is the most time and cost effective way of controlling this species.
- \* Plants are easiest to control in the seedling stage and when found should be removed immediately. Pulling small infestations before they become established can be an effective control method.





✦ The toadflax stem weevil, *Mecinus janthinus* is a biocontrol agent used in Washington State to control Dalmatian toadflax. For more information about the biological control of Dalmatian toadflax, see the [WSU Extension Integrated Weed Control Project](#).

✦ Spot spraying with an herbicide containing the active ingredient *Glyphosate* (Roundup Pro, Glyfos, etc.) may be used effectively while the plant is actively growing, repeat as needed. Be aware, *Glyphosate* is non-selective and will injure any plants that it comes in contact with, including grass.

✦ 2, 4 D plus *Dicamba* (Weedmaster, Crossbow, etc) is also effective. Spray the plant and an area 10 feet in diameter around it before the bloom stage and repeat as needed.

✦ When using herbicides, read and follow all label instructions and obey all label precautions. (Note: pesticide product registration is renewed annually and product names and

formulations may vary from year to year.)

✦ To minimize any harmful impact on bees and other pollinators, timing is important. Ideally, treat plants before blooming. If treatment after blooming is necessary, do control work early in the morning, or in the evening when bees are less active.

