

Please call 1-866-invader if you suspect you have found this species

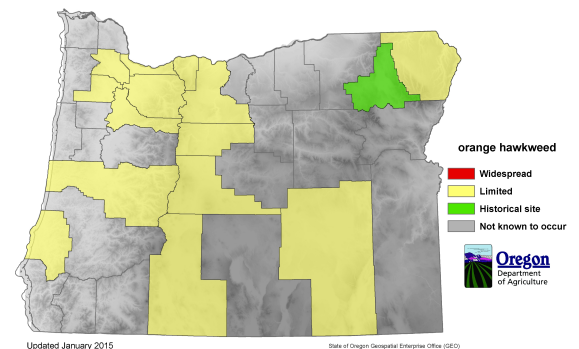
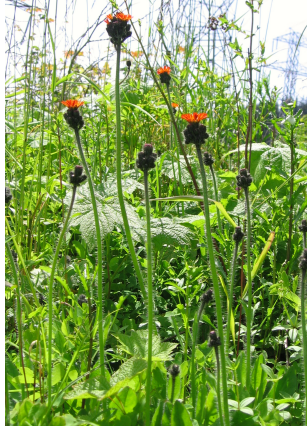
Orange hawkweed
Pilosella aurantiacum (*Hieracium*)

Other common names:
Devil's paintbrush

USDA symbol: HIAU
ODA rating: A and T



Introduction: Orange hawkweed is native to Europe. One of the more attractive hawkweeds, people have been very instrumental in distributing this plant throughout the country. Orange hawkweed is found from western Washington to Wyoming and is known to occur in eastern states. It is very aggressive, rapidly invading any habitat where it is introduced. Oregon's populations are still limited but increasing in urban areas.



Distribution in Oregon: Distribution is limited but expanding. The well-established population in Clackamas County is our oldest site with newer populations reported throughout central and south central Oregon.

Description: Orange hawkweed is an aggressive perennial hawkweed sporting attractive, showy orange flowers. The bright orange flowers attract gardeners who are unaware of its aggressive nature. It rapidly spreads through lawns, flowerbeds and meadows through abundant seed production and aboveground runners (stolons) that root at the tips creating dense populations. The flower stalks grow up to 12+ inches tall and contain a milky sap. The vibrant orange-red flowers are clustered at the top of leafless stems. The stems are entirely covered by stiff, black, glandular hairs. Leaves are hairy, lance shaped, up to five inches long, and exclusively basal.

Impacts: Once established, hawkweed quickly develops into a monoculture that continues to expand until it covers the site. A dense mat of hawkweed plants has the potential to eliminate or restrict other vegetation, even lawns. Its unpalatable vegetation displaces native vegetation posing a serious threat to native plant communities while also invading pastures and roadsides. It thrives in a range of soil conditions; poor to fertile though it prefers well drained, coarse textured soils that are moderately low in organic matter. Hawkweeds do not persist in cultivation. Orange hawkweed occurs on native meadows, gravel pits, forest openings, permanent pastures, roadsides, and hayfields.

Biological controls: No approved biocontrol agent currently available for this weed. Orange hawkweed is an "A" listed noxious weed in Oregon. All known infestations are targeted for eradication or containment.



Oregon Department of Agriculture • Noxious Weed Control Program
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www.oregon.gov/ODA/programs/Weeds/Pages/Default.aspx

Photos by Dave Langland, Beth Myers-Shenai and Tom Forney, ODA