

Top 6 Former Ornamental Plants that are now Noxious Weeds

Many of the noxious weed species have beautiful flowers that make them appealing. That's why many noxious weeds started out as ornamental plant introductions. While some noxious weeds may have a strong visual appeal, they remain a true threat to our crops, pastures, native habitats, and our drinking water.

The threatening presence of these ornamental noxious weeds was discovered once they arrived in the United States. Without their natural pests and disease, their aggressive growth habits and reseeding capabilities led to them escaping cultivation. These same properties allow them to thrive outside of our yards and become fierce competitors with native vegetation. Some ornamental plants can be dangerous to humans and animals, if consumed. In Weld County, the top six ornamentals that are now noxious weeds, based on acres, are: Dalmatian Toadflax, Yellow Toadflax, Myrtle Spurge and Eurasian Watermilfoil, Dames Rocket and Bouncingbet.



Dalmatian Toadflax



Yellow Toadflax



Myrtle Spurge



Eurasian Watermilfoil



Dames Rocket



Bouncingbet