

Scotch Thistle

Identification characteristics:

- Leaves densely covered with fine hairs
- Fine hairs give blue-grayish appearance
- Long, yellow spines on leaf edges
- Can grow 10-12 feet tall
- Flower heads violet to reddish
- Leaves extend onto stem thus appearing “winged”

Control options:

- Chemical control, best when sprayed at rosette stage
 - Examples include but not limited to:
 - 2,4-D (Amine)
 - Dicamba (Rifle, Banvel, Clarity)
 - Aminopyralid (Milestone)
 - Clopyralid (Stinger, Transline, Pyramid)
 - Chlorsulfuron (Telar, Glean)
 - Aminocyclopyrachlor
 - Metsulfuron (Escort)
 - Picloram (Tordon)
 - Always follow label instructions when applying herbicides
- Mechanical control
 - Mow prior to flowering to prevent seed set, may require several events
 - Dig to completely sever the main root
 - If flowered, collect and burn seed heads to prevent seed spread
- Cultural control
 - Encourage growth of desirable vegetation
- Biological control
 - No insect control at this time
 - Varied success with grazing



Goshen County Weed and Pest
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