



*Tanacetum vulgare*

WA – Class B Noxious Weed

## Common Tansy

Garden Tansy

**Family:** Asteraceae

**Origins:** Native to Europe and Asia, Common Tansy was originally brought to the United States in the 1600s for medicinal and horticultural purposes.

**Range:** Found throughout the United States.

**Habitat:** Commonly grows in disturbed areas, fields, pastures, meadows, roadsides, and railway embankments.

**Impact:** Common Tansy forms dense stands that inhibit the growth of desirable vegetation, resulting in a loss of quality forage and habitat for wildlife and native plants. It spreads through an extensive root system and prolific seed production. One plant can produce between 2,000 and 150,000 seeds, which can remain viable in the soil for 15 years. The rhizomes also remain viable in the soil for up to 10 years.

**Description:** Common Tansy is a rhizomatous, perennial plant growing up to 6 feet tall. Leaves are fern-like, alternately arranged along the stems, and strongly aromatic when crushed. Plants have multiple brown to reddish-brown stems dotted with numerous glands. Button-like yellow flowers are ¼ to ½ inch in diameter and arranged in dense flat-topped clusters at the tips of stems.

**Common Look-Alikes:** Yellow Yarrow, Tansy Ragwort.

*\* Common Tansy is toxic to humans and livestock if ingested in large quantities.*



### Integrated Pest Management - Control Methods

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) combines various methods such as mechanical, cultural, biological, and chemical controls to manage pests. IPM offers the possibility of improving the efficiency of pest control while reducing its negative environmental impacts. For more information, see the Cowlitz County Noxious Weed’s IPM Resources & Strategy Guide or contact your local Noxious Weed Control Board to develop a customized IPM plan.

### Non-Herbicide Control

<p><b>Mechanical</b> (pulling, cutting, digging, etc.)</p>	<p>Mowing will not control plants, but it can prevent seed production if performed when plants are actively growing and before budding.          Hand pulling single plants or small infestations is not effective on its own; plants will regenerate from root fragments.</p>
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<b>Cultural</b>	Planting competitive native vegetation can slow down the spread of this plant. Minimize soil disturbance and re-vegetate any disturbed areas promptly.
<b>Biological</b>	Sheep can graze significant amounts without toxic effects.

### **Herbicide Control: Foliar Broadcast Treatment**

<b>Aminocyclopyrachlor + chlorsulfuron</b> (Perspective)	<b>Timing:</b> Apply to young, actively growing plants in spring. <b>Remarks:</b> Even low rates can kill non-target tree and shrub species, avoid application within a distance equal to the tree height of sensitive species; do not allow spray to drift off-target; can injure grass species; do not apply near water.
<b>Chlorsulfuron</b> (Telar)	<b>Timing:</b> Apply to young, actively growing plants in the spring. <b>Remarks:</b> Use on non-cropland only; do not apply to the frozen ground; maintain constant agitation while mixing the product with water; avoid contact with sensitive crops; do not treat powdery, dry soils and light, sandy soils if rain is not likely after treatment; refer to the label for use in aquatic areas.
<b>Metsulfuron</b> (Escort, MSM)	<b>Timing:</b> Apply to young, actively growing plants in the spring. <b>Remarks:</b> Do not allow spray to drift to sensitive crops; apply only to pasture, rangeland, and non-crop sites; application sites differ between products; for best results, use a surfactant; do not apply near water.
<b>Dicamba + Picloram</b> (Banvel, Clarity + Tordon)	<b>Timing:</b> Apply to actively growing plants during the bud to bloom stage. <b>Remarks:</b> Repeat applications may be necessary; avoid drift to sensitive crops; refer to label for grazing restrictions; do not apply near water.

\* Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Control Board does not endorse any product or brand name. Brand names are listed as an example only. Other commercial products may contain the listed active chemical for herbicide control. Always read and follow the safety protocols and rate recommendations on the herbicide label. **The Label is The Law.**

This control sheet includes excerpts from the Written Findings of the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board (WSNWCB), [nwcb.wa.gov](http://nwcb.wa.gov). Herbicide information from the PNW Weed Management Handbook (ISBN 978-1-931979-22-1) and product labels.