# Identifying Nebraska's

## Noxious Weeds

## Nax Birkel Butler County Weed Superintendent

- 1. Canada Thistle 1873
- 2. Musk Thistle 1962
- 3. Leafy Spurge 1962
- 4. Plumeless Thistle 1975
- 5. Spotted Knapweed 1992
- 6. Diffuse Knapweed 1992
- 7. Purple Loosestrife January 2001
- 8. Saltcedar January 2005
- 9. Phragmites April 2008
- 10. Japanese Knotweed February 2011
- 11. Giant Knotweed- February 2011
- 12. Sericea Lespedeza April 1, 2013

#### Noxious Weed Control Act

 The failure to control noxious weeds on lands in this state is a serious problem which is detrimental to the production of crops and livestock and to the welfare of residents of this state and which may devalue land and reduce tax revenue;

#### Noxious Weed Control Act

- It is the duty of each person who owns or controls land to effectively control noxious weeds on such land.
- County boards or control authorities are responsible for administration of noxious weed control laws at the county level

#### Musk Thistle

- Plumeless Thistle
- Canada Thistle
- Spotted and Diffuse Knapweed
- Leafy Spurge
- Purple Loosestrife became a noxious weed Jan. 2001
- Saltcedar became a noxious weed Jan. 2005
- Phragmites became a noxious weed April 2008
- Knotweeds, Japanese & Giant became noxious weed February 2011
- Sericea Lespedeza April 2013





Musk Thistle can pretty much grow anywhere if given the chance. This one tried to grow on a concrete slab with <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inch gap shown below.





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Bare and showing no stem wings

Stem wings extending Up to flower – note the different bracts below the flower

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Seed heads / Flower much smaller – Dime Size in general and in dense clusters on terminal ends



Dense Monoculture

### Other Thistles – Common to NE

- Wavyleaf Thistle
- Tall Thistle
- Bull Thistle
- Scotch Thistle



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#### Not all Phragmites found around lakes and streams











#### Seed heads during the Winter

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# Japanese Knotweed early spring









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#### **Control Recommendations**

#### UNL Extension EC 130

Guide for Weed Management in Nebraska

#### **Noxious Weed Section**

- Herbicide
- Rates & Timing
- Cost

# Thank you

For more information on noxious weed ID. Butler County Weed Control Office: 402-367-7446 Cell: 402-270-9333 butlercountyweed@gmail.com