

OX-EYE DAISY

Tier 2

Overview

Ox-eye Daisy and the very similarly flowered Scentless Chamomile can be considered conspicuous, as there are no native white flowered daisies on the Canadian Prairies. It is a perennial herb that reproduces both by seed and shallow rhizomes. Single plants quickly become patches that continually increase in size.



Habitat

Ox-eye Daisy has become a serious invader of pastures and natural areas throughout North America. It grows in a wide range of environmental conditions, and flourishes in nutrient poor soils. It can mature, flower, and produce seed even at high elevations. Prefers full sun but tolerates partial shade



Identification

Stems: Multiple, un-branched stems grow up to 1m tall and are smooth, frequently grooved, and generally hairless.

Leaves: Basal and lower leaves are lance shaped with "toothed" margins and petioles that may be as long as the leaves. The upper leaves are alternately arranged, narrow, and stalkless with wavy margins. Leaves progressively decrease in size upward on the stem.

Flowers: Flowers are borne singly at the end of stems and can be up to 5 cm in diameter, with yellow centers, and 20 to 30 white petals radiating from the center. The petals are slightly notched at the tip.

Seed: Individual plants can produce over 500 flat, black seeds that are viable in the soil for 2-3 years or more. Seeds have no dormancy requirement and are viable upon dispersal.

