

Yellow Flag-Iris

(Iris pseudacorus)

Description

- Native to Europe, Western Asia, North Africa and the Mediterranean.
- In the Iris family.
- Perennial that spreads by seeds and rhizomes.
- Rhizome fragments can break off and form new plants.
- Grows in ditches, ponds, wetlands, riparian areas.
- Flowers resemble garden iris, but are dark yellow.
- Blooms May through July.
- Distribution expanding. Creston Valley Wildlife Management area, Kootenay Lake, Kootenay River, Nancy Greene Lake, Meldeanna pond, Arrow Lake, Slocan River, Erie Lake, Pend D'Orielle River.

Consequences of invasion

- Colonizes and spreads in dense stands, out-competing native wetland plants and reducing habitat and resources available for wildlife.
- Yellow flag-iris can sicken livestock if ingested, though it is generally avoided by grazing animals. Contact with the resins can cause skin irritation in humans.

Integrated Pest Management Options

- Caution: All plant parts are poisonous-wear gloves when handling yellow flag iris!
- Dig up or clip the seedheads for small infestations.
- Digging and clipping seedheads will have to continue for several years.
- Annual monitoring is recommended.

More information available:

District of Saanich: www.saanich.ca

King County Washington: www.kingcounty.gov

Washington State University: www.spokane-county.wsu.edu

Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen: www.oasiss.ca



**PLEASE REPORT
THIS SPECIES!**



Photo: E. Cameron

**REPORT SIGHTINGS TO:
1-844-352-1160**

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