



Dyers Woad

Isatis tinctoria



- Winter Annual or Biennial
- Grows 1-4 feet tall
- Blooms in late spring
- Grows in waste areas, disturbed sites, pastures, fence lines, and right of ways
- Forms monocultures that reduce crop and rangeland production as well as biodiversity of infested areas

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Suggested Control Methods for Dyers Woad

Mechanical & Cultural Methods

Hand-Pulling/Hoeing: Best for small infestations; pull after bolting but before seed set, ensuring the taproot is removed.

Mowing/Cutting: Effective for orchards and larger areas, must be done before flowering to prevent seed production and repeated throughout the season.

Tillage: Field cultivation in spring (before seeds set) and fall can manage populations in crop fields.

Prevention: Clean equipment and hay to avoid spreading seeds; maintain healthy, dense desirable plants to outcompete dyer's woad.

Chemical Control (Herbicides)

Timing is Key: Apply to actively growing rosettes or plants in the bolt stage, before flowering, for best results.

Effective Products: Herbicides containing metsulfuron, or chlorsulfuron, are effective.

Combinations: 2,4-D or Dicamba can be used, sometimes mixed with metsulfuron/chlorsulfuron for enhanced control.

Caution: Always read and follow label instructions; some herbicides can harm legumes in mixed pastures.

Biological Control

Puccinia thlaspeos Rust: A native rust that infects dyer's woad, causing curling and stunting, preventing seed set.