

Invasive Species of Truckee Meadows

Tansy Mustard *Descurainia sophia*



Identification

Tansy Mustard can be identified by its single-stem that has alternating leaves and is covered with fine, gray hairs. Flowers range from yellow to white, and collect in clusters at stem ends. The plant has very distinctive club-shaped fruit that contain long, round, slender capsules filled with many small, waxy seeds.

Origin and Spread



Tansy Mustard was originally introduced from Eurasia and is used by many Native American tribes for both food and medicine. It is believed to be a treatment for toothaches, it is ground up and used to make delicious cakes, and it is also used as sheep feed.

Management

Hand removal before the seeds develop is the recommended way to control Tansy Mustard. This is best done when the soil is moist in order to remove the entire root system. Mowing is also an option for reducing production and is best used on plants that are in the bud to



bloom stages. Herbicide use is most effective right before or right after rainfall when the roots of the plants take in water. This will aid in the uptake of the herbicides being used, however, be sure to **carefully read the label** and ensure they are appropriate for use near water.

Plant These Native Alternatives:



Rubber rabbitbrush
(*Ericameria nauseosa*)



American yellowrocket
(*Barbarea orthoceras*)



Singlehead goldenbush
(*Ericameria suffruticosa*)



Threenerve goldenrod
(*Solidago velutina*)

Visit the National Wildlife Federation "Native Plant Finder" online to pick the best native species for your garden!

For more information and resources, check out this link:

