

Invasive Species Alert

Spotted Knapweed

(*Centaurea stoebe*)

Established in Michigan

Identification:

- An herbaceous, bushy, perennial plant growing 2-3 feet
- Elongated, bluish- or grayish-green leaves divided into lance-shaped lobes.
- Pinkish-purple flowers are thistle-like and bloom from July through September
- Long, stout tap-root can send shoots to start new plants
- Seeds are carried on fine, white tufts emerging from the flower base.

Habitat: Often found in open fields or scrub-shrub areas with poor soils or sands and also in disturbed areas, hay fields and pastures



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Native Range: Eurasia

U. S. Distribution: Throughout most of the U.S. and Canada

Local Concern: Spotted knapweed is poisonous to other plants, creating barren areas where only knapweed grows. It is a threat to pastures and dry ecosystems including prairies and dunes. Can be a skin irritant.

Report this species at
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report it from your phone