

# QUICK FACTS ABOUT COMMON TANSY

- Creeping perennial which spreads by seed and roots
- Mature plants are 1.5-7 feet tall
- Flowers are yellow and clustered in “buttons” at the top
- Leaves are alternate, deeply lobed like a fern, feathery, dark green, and smell medicinal
- Brought here from Europe for horticultural and medicinal purposes; now escaped from cultivation
- Common tansy is often confused with *Achillea millefolium* (‘Moonshine’ yarrow), which is a similar height, leaf structure, and has yellow terminal flowers.



# COMMON TANSY CONTROL

## MECHANICAL

**best for residential areas and small infestations**

Mowing before flower will prevent seed production but needs to be combined with another control measure to be eradicated. Pulling or digging is not effective because of the extensive root system. The oils this plant produces can cause skin irritation, so wear gloves. If flowers/seeds are present they need to be bagged and disposed of.

## CHEMICAL

**always apply according to label**

Contact Gilpin CSU Extension or a licensed applicator for herbicide recommendations.

# COMMON TANSY

*Tanacetum vulgare*

**LIST B INVASIVE NOXIOUS WEED**



# WHY COMMON TANSY IS A NOXIOUS WEED



High seed production can cause it to spread rapidly, crowding out native wildflowers and plants. One plant can produce 50,000 seeds!



Toxic to cattle and horses if it comprises over 30% of their diet, causing depression, leg swelling and even death.



## GILPIN COUNTY COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

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## KEYS TO IDENTIFICATION

- Yellow button-like composite flower heads that lack ray flowers
- Fern-like pinnately divided alternate leaves, foul smell
- Ribbed stiff tall stems
- Dense woody-like root mass

## WHAT DOES LIST B COLORADO NOXIOUS WEEDS MEAN?

Noxious weeds are non-native plants that threaten our native ecosystems. Management of noxious weeds is enforced through the CO Noxious Weed Act. List B weed species must be managed to stop their continued spread.