

QUICK FACTS

ABOUT MYRTLE SPURGE



- Low-growing perennial that has a taproot and reproduces only by seed
- Started in backyard rock gardens and has escaped to disturbed ground, waste places and remote rocky locations
- Plant produces new stems from a tap root each year
- Prefers dry to moist, well-drained soils
- Can rapidly expand into native ecosystems

QUICK FACTS

ABOUT ORANGE HAWKWEED



- Perennial that reproduces from runners, creeping roots, and seeds
- Grows in moist, shady, grassy areas and can be found along creeks, in meadows, and along rights-of-way between 5,000'-10,500' elevation
- Each plant may produce thousands of seeds
- Introduced from Europe as an ornamental but has now escaped and is very invasive
- Plants form rosettes in spring/early summer forming mats preventing other plants from growing
- Flowers in June-July

CONTROL OPTIONS

MYRTLE SPURGE

MECHANICAL

The most common recommendation is hand pulling or digging, with proper caution to prevent skin or eye contact with the caustic latex present throughout the plant. Seeds need to be bagged and disposed of.

CHEMICAL

Contact Gilpin CSU Extension or a licensed applicator for herbicide recommendations. Always apply according to the herbicide label.

ORANGE HAWKWEED

MECHANICAL

Hand pulling or digging can reduce seed production but do not mow. Clip and bag any flowers.

CHEMICAL

Contact Gilpin CSU Extension or a licensed applicator for herbicide recommendations. Always apply according to the herbicide label.

MYRTLE SPURGE

Euphorbia myrsinites



ORANGE HAWKWEED

Hieracium aurantiacum



LIST A INVASIVE NOXIOUS WEEDS

NATIVE ALTERNATIVE TO MYRTLE SPURGE



Common Names: Sulphur Flower or Sulphur Buckwheat

Scientific Name: *Eriogonum umbellatum*

Sulphur buckwheat, a native CO plant, provides a food source in either leaf or seed form to numerous fauna, including birds and mountain sheep. It is highly valuable to bees, as they produce a particular honey that is darker and richer in color from the nectar. Bee species from the American bumblebee, sweat bee, and honey bee all benefit greatly from the flowers. It is a larval host and nectar plant for several species of native Colorado butterfly species. Sulphur flower also attracts beneficial insects to the landscape that mitigate infestation from aphids and other pests.

NATIVE ALTERNATIVE TO ORANGE HAWKWEED



Common Names: Orange agoseris or Orange Mountain Dandelion

Scientific Name: *Agoseris aurantiaca*

This cheerful plant has a single large orange flowerhead and the stalk contains a milky juice superficially resembling common dandelion. Orange agoseris is an herbaceous perennial growing in forest openings, grassy slopes, and along roads in foothills, montane and alpine zones.



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SOCIAL MEDIA

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WEBSITE

<https://gilpin.extension.colostate.edu/>



KEYS TO IDENTIFICATION

MYRTLE SPURGE

- Mature plants have flattened growth structure, 8-12' tall
- Blue-green fleshy leaves clasp stem in alternate pattern
- Tiny flowers are yellowish-green clustered in bunches at ends of stems
- Upper stem leaves near flowers called bracts/are lime-green in color

ORANGE HAWKWEED

- Mature plants grow 10-20" tall
- Dark green hairy leaves found at base of plant; have finely toothed margins
- Stems are bristly, nearly leafless and have milky juice
- Flowers bright orange, between 1/2 to 1" wide with notched tips, in groups of 5 to 35 flowers at tops of stem

WHAT DOES LIST A 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 A weed species must be eradicated whenever detected to protect neighboring communities.