



Plumeless thistle (*Carduus acanthoides*)



Photos: USDA, NRCS. 2001. The PLANTS Database, Version 3.1, National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, LA 70874-4490 USA. - <http://plants.usda.gov/>

Plumeless thistle - <i>Eradication required in Jefferson County</i>	
General	Family: Sunflower (Asteraceae) Herbaceous Biennial (short lived perennial) Rosettes formed the first year and bolt early in May to June of the next year.
Habitat	Found in disturbed areas such as overgrazed pastures, rangelands, roadsides, and right-of ways
PLANT	
Vegetation	Dark green with lighter mid-rib Spines along edges of stems and leaves Hair on underside of leaves Stems are winged Mature plants are 3-8 feet tall with flowerheads at the tips of shoots.
Roots	Tap root
Flower	Reddish purple Second season June - September 1/2 - 1 inch wide Bracts are narrow and tipped with a spine
Seed	Lacks pappus
Seedling	Seedlings spend their first growing season as rosettes.
Reproduction	Seed
CONTROL	
BIOLOGICAL	<i>Not allowed</i>



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CONTROL			
CHEMICAL	Rosette thru early bolt stage	2,4-D plus Dicamba Escort Milestone Overdrive Tordon (Restricted Use)	Spring or fall
CULTURAL	Prevention - Maintain health of site Removal - Hand pulling works when populations are small and isolated. Taproot must be severed at least 2-3 inches below ground. Revegetation of highly disturbed sites Grass competition - Promote grass growth by fertilization, irrigation, reseeding.		
MECHANICAL			
Burning	N/A		
Grazing	N/A		
Mowing	Not effective alone		

Use all chemicals according to the manufacturer's label. No specific recommendation or endorsement is made or implied by listing the above methods or products.