

## Scotch Broom Facts

- Woody shrub, growing to 10 feet tall with many more-or-less erect branches that are angled and dark green.
- Leaves are mostly 3-parted with entire leaflets.
- Flowers are showy, yellow, and abundant.
- Pods are flattened, brown or black, with white hair on the margins.
- Scotch broom is a widespread pest of the Pacific Northwest, where it was introduced as an ornamental.
- This disturbance-prone aggressive shrub is a problem in pastures, forests, and wasteland.
- It forms dense stands that provide little for native wildlife and are a fire danger.
- The seeds of Scotch broom remain viable in the soil for 30 years or more.

## For More Information

### Herbicides Recommendations:

<http://uspest.org/pnw/weeds/>

### Biocontrol:

<http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/PLANT/WEEDS/biocontrolprogram.shtml>

### Weed Biology:

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/html/em/em8776/#anchor303166>

### ODA : Noxious Weed Control:

<http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/PLANT/WEEDS/index.shtml>



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## Yamhill Soil & Water Conservation District

# Scotch Broom

*Cytisus scoparius*



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## Suggestions for Chemical Control

Always follow label instructions and take precautions to avoid drift when using chemical means of control.

- Spring spraying before flowering is recommended
- Water stress in late summer can cause reduced herbicide effectiveness.
- When plants are actively growing in the spring, Garlon 3A or 4, Crossbow\*, and glyphosate are both effective on Scotch Broom, but you must take care to avoid the surrounding vegetation
- Garlon 3A and Milestone mixed are very effective and don't require complete coverage of the plant for total control
- New seedlings should be treated every year

For recommendations for directed spot spray, tree injection and basal bark treatment visit

<http://yamhillswcd.org/weedwatch>.

*For more herbicide information visit*  
<http://uspest.org/pnw/weeds/>

## Suggestions for Mechanical Control

### Mowing

Mowing in the spring can be done to control larger Scotch Broom patches. Mowing typically results in dense multi-stemmed re-growth which when combined with a chemical treatment can be very effective.

- Be sure to clean equipment thoroughly after mowing to prevent spread of seed pods.
- Don't mow when seed pods are ripe

### Manual Pulling



Pull smaller plants (less than 1/2 inch) by hand or with a weed puller tool. This is best done when the soil is wet. If plants are older than 1 year, they may be extremely difficult to pull out of the ground.

## Biological Control

There are three approved insects for biocontrol release in Oregon. One insect, released in Lane and Marion counties, is a seed beetle *Bruchidius villosus*, whose larva feeds on the seed pods.



Seed beetle

## Suggestions for Integrated Pest Management Options

- Seed removal area heavily with grass to shade out Scotch broom seedlings.
- Cut stumps often don't need herbicide treatment if they are an inch in diameter or bigger. Late summer cutting is best.



*Best control is good cover! Be sure to plant grasses after weeds have been removed.*