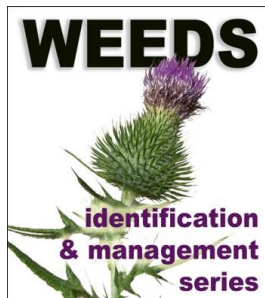




EXTENSION

College of Agriculture,
Biotechnology & Natural Resources

Fact Sheet-13-14



A Northern Nevada Homeowner's Guide to Identifying and Managing Coyote Tobacco

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Other common names: None listed

Scientific name: *Nicotiana attenuata*

Family: Solanaceae

Description: Coyote tobacco grows from a low cluster of leaves. It can grow tall and upright, or in a branched, shrubby form. The entire plant is sticky and often looks dirty. This native plant is considered a sensitive species in Washington State. Native Americans reported used the plant for medicinal purposes, as well as ceremonial smoking. The plant gives off an unpleasant tobacco scent when touched.

Leaves: Lower leaves are more or less spear-shaped and have smooth edges and pale midribs. The leaf stem and midrib on the underside have short, bristly hairs. Upper leaves are narrow and smaller, with similar bristles. All leaves are hairy and have glands that look like tiny white dots.

Stems: Erect, bright green, glossy, hairy and sticky.

Flowers: White to slightly pinkish trumpet-shaped or tubular flowers occur in clusters at the ends of the stems and along the stem where leaves meet the stem.

Roots: Grows a taproot.

Native to: North America

Where it grows: Disturbed sites, dry rocky washes, well-drained slopes and other dry sites

Life cycle: Annual (sprouts, flowers and dies in a single year)

Reproduction: Reproduces by seed



Typical plant growing in disturbed site.



Seedlings leaves are hairy and often appear dirty.

(Top photo by W. Hanson Mazet;
bottom photo by S. Donaldson)

Control methods: Little information is available about the control of coyote tobacco. As for all annuals, control relies on preventing production of seed. Once produced, seed remains viable for decades. Plants continue to sprout during the summer months.

Mechanical: Dig, hoe or pull small patches.

Mowing alone does not provide control.

Cultural: Encourage thick, competitive vegetation. Avoid disturbing the soil.

Biological: No information is available.

Chemical: Apply broadleaf-selective herbicides such as 2,4-D on young plants. Glyphosate may also be effective but is non-selective and can kill or damage other plants, including lawn grasses.

References:

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The stems have small, stiff hairs.



The flowers are sometimes tinged with pink.

(Photos by W. Hanson Mazet)