



SULFUR CINQUEFOIL (*Potentilla recta*)

Family: Rosaceae (Rose)

Life Cycle: Perennial

Class: Weed of Concern - Control Recommended AKA: Upright or Rough-fruited cinquefoil

SULFUR CINQUEFOIL

- Forms dense monocultures over large areas
- May be confused with native *Potentilla spp.*
- Can often see dead flowering stems from previous growing season
- Native to Europe and Asia

CONTROL METHODS

Mechanical: Hand-pulling or digging can be effective if all of root crown is removed. Mowing is not effective; it will encourage roots to send up new shoots. Tilling, especially when followed with seeding or crops, can be effective.

Cultural: Does not tolerate shade; support or establish desirable competitive vegetation to shade it out. Seeding following tilling can be effective.

Biological: There are currently no biological agents approved for release in Washington State.

Chemical*: Most effective on rosette stage before flower buds begin to develop. See table below for recommendations.

DESCRIPTION

Growth Traits: Perennial plant with hairy vegetation and one to several stalks growing from rootstock. Vegetation dies back over winter. Grows one to three feet tall, beginning as a rosette in spring, followed by flowering stalks.

Leaves and Stems: Leaves and stems covered in hair. Leaves divided into five to seven leaflets arranged in palm shape (palmately compound). Leaflets are two to four inches long and have toothed edges. Stems stout and branching.

Flowers: Blooms May to July. Flowers pale sulfur-yellow with five petals and a darker yellow center. Flowers appear on branched flat-topped clusters at end of stems. Each flower is about one inch in diameter.

Roots and Reproduction: Woody rootstock that eventually rots at the core. New shoots then grow from the root perimeter. Plants spread by seed and root fragments. Mature plant may produce 1,500 small dark brown seeds, most of which fall near the parent plant. Seeds may remain viable in soil three to four years.

Habitat: Highly invasive in pastures, rangeland, open forest and disturbed areas such as roadsides and waste areas. Does not tolerate shady conditions.

Toxicity: Not known to be toxic. High tannin content makes it unpalatable to most wildlife and livestock.

***ALWAYS read herbicide labels and follow instructions for use and PPE.** The use of a surfactant (aka sticker) increases the efficacy of herbicide application, saving you time and money. If treating over multiple seasons, rotate using herbicides with different modes of action to reduce likelihood of herbicide resistance developing. Below are recommended herbicides based on stage of growth and time of year. All recommendations are supplied with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the Noxious Weed Board is implied. Trade names are used to simplify recommendations.

NOTE: There is no 'magic bullet' in noxious weed control, and control efforts must be repeated every season to stop their spread. Using a combination of methods (e.g. cultural and chemical) will lead to better control over time.

April - May Rosette, Seedling Stage	June - July Bolting, Bud, Bloom Stage	August - October Seeding, Fall Regrowth Stage
Tordon + 2,4-D	Tordon + 2,4-D	Tordon + 2,4-D
Escort	Escort	
Milestone		