

STOP THE SPREAD

Purple Loosestrife

Lythrum salicaria and Lythrum virgatum



Purple Loosestrife damage and control costs 45 million dollars (US) each year in North America!

UNWANTED PLANTS

Origin

Native to Europe and Asia. Brought to North America accidentally, as an ornamental plant and for medicine.

Status

Has invaded all of North America and as far north in Canada as Yellowknife and Whitehorse. In Manitoba, it has spread as far north as Snow Lake.

Impacts

Chokes out native and rare plants. Wildlife do not use it for habitat or for food. Reduces the diversity of living things in an area and clogs irrigation systems.

Where to Look

In wet areas including marshes, bogs, prairie potholes, river/stream banks, lakeshores, and roadside ditches. It can sometimes still be seen in home gardens.



Look For:

- ◇ Large spikes of purplish-pink flowers.
- ◇ Square stems
- ◇ Dark Green Leaves in opposite pairs attached directly to the stem.



PREVENT THE SPREAD IN MANITOBA

Purple Loosestrife in gardens should be dug out completely and left to dry out before being disposed of in the garbage or burned.

Purple loosestrife and all its ornamental cultivars are regulated as a Noxious Weed in Manitoba.

Report a Sighting:

Invasive Species Council of Manitoba

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EDD MapS Prairie Region
Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System Manitoba & Saskatchewan

<http://www.eddmaps.org/prairieregion/>

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