

# JAPANESE KNOTWEED

Common Names: Fleeceflower - *Polygonum cuspidatum* Sieb. & Zucc.

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**Plant Description:** Perennial species with creeping rhizomes. The plant can reach 4 to 9 feet in height and is often shrubby.

**Flowers:** Whitish clusters, longer than the leaves, born in open, drooping panicles.

**Stems:** Reddish brown, hollow freely branched, woody but die back at the end of the growing season. It resembles bamboo.

**Habitat:** Japanese Knotweed is found along stream banks, in moist waste places, neglected gardens, old home stead's and along roadsides.

**Origin:** Introduced from Asia as a ornamental.

## What Are Noxious Weeds?

Noxious Weeds are defined by the State Weed Board as plants that negatively impact agriculture, wildlife, human health, land values or natural resources.

## Noxious Weed Related Concerns:

Increased soil erosion, displacement of native or desirable vegetation, water shed impacts, toxicity concerns, reduced recreation, property value and livestock carrying capacity, allergies and increased fire frequency.

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## Contact

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## What Can You Do To Help?

- 1) Learn how to recognize weed species.
- 2) Reseed disturbed soil.
- 3) Check your vehicle, yourself and pets for hitchhiking weeds.
- 4) Purchase and transport weed free forage.
- 5) Pull up small isolated weeds when encountered.
- 6) Report weed infestations to the proper authority and help spread the word **BECAUSE** weeds affect **Everyone!**

Weed education is a cooperative effort between WSU Douglas County Extension, Douglas County and Foster Creek Conservation District.