

Bull thistle is a biennial and it is a member of the sunflower family; Asteraceae. It was introduced to North America around the 1800's and can now be found in all 50 states. Bull thistle is native to Europe, Western Asia and northeastern Africa.

Flowers are dark purple and can be seen as early as June. One individual plant can produce up to 4,000 wind dispersing seeds per season. It's dispersal mechanism is mainly by wind. Thistle grows in disturbed areas, along road sides and pastures.

Where to get more information on Noxious Weeds:

Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board 1111 Washington St. Olympia, WA 98504-2560 (360)725-5764 Website:

http://www.nwcb.wa.gov

Washington State Department of Agriculture 1111 Washington St. SE Olympia, WA 98504 (509)225-2604

WSU Extension, Cowlitz County 1946 3rd Avenue Longview, WA 98632 (360)577-3014

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Bull thistelCirsium vulgare



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