

Have you seen this invasive plant?

Garden loosestrife is an aggressive, perennial plant that can quickly spread by roots and seeds in wet habitats.

Learn more at www.nwcb.wa.gov



It forms dense stands of upright stems, growing up to 3 or more feet tall. Plants produce extensive rhizomes. Stems and leaves are covered in hairs. Plants may grow in an area for some time before blooming. Leaves are opposite or in whorls of up to 4. Leaf undersides are dotted with black or orange glands.



Flowers are in clusters at stem tips and from leaf axils on the upper portion of the stem. Flowers are yellow, primrose-like and have 5 yellow petals. Plants bloom June to August. Flowers develop into egg-shaped capsules.



Richard Old, XID Services, Inc., Bugwood.org



Images: King County NWCB

Why is garden loosestrife (*Lysimachia vulgaris*) a noxious weed?

- Garden loosestrife forms dense stands in Washington's wetlands, displacing native plant communities.
- Its growth is similar to another noxious weed, purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*), with which it can grow and potentially outcompete.

Where do you find garden loosestrife?

- It grows in moist habitats, such as wetlands, fens, wet woods, lakeshores and riverbanks.
- Infestations are found primarily in western Washington, notably King County, but it can also occur in eastern Washington.
- May be confused with yellow loosestrife (*Lysimachia punctata*), which has single or small clusters of flowers at leaf bases only, never in a terminal cluster.

What can you do?

- Learn to identify this Class B noxious weed.
- Please note that garden loosestrife is designated for control in much of Washington State.
- Report any sightings to your county noxious weed control board or to noxiousweeds@agr.wa.gov.

