

Have you seen this invasive plant?

Spanish broom is an invasive shrub that is a prolific seed producer and outcompetes native plants.

Learn more at www.nwcb.wa.gov



Spanish broom is a perennial, evergreen shrub that grows 6-10 feet tall. It has upright, *round* green stems that are leafless most of the time. It can look similar to Scotch broom which has grooved stems. When leaves are present, they are narrow (lance-shaped), less than 1 inch and hairless.



Flowers are irregularly shaped, typical of flowers in the pea family. They are yellow, about 1 inch long, fragrant and grow in clusters at stem tips.



John M. Randall, TNC, Bugwood.org



The flattened seed pods are hairy and grow up to 3 inches long. Plants can produce thousands of seeds each year.

Why is Spanish broom (*Spartium junceum*) a noxious weed?

- Spanish broom can dominate disturbed areas where it can outcompete native plants and alter soil nutrients.
- Plants can produce 7,000 -10,000 seeds in one season which can germinate without any pretreatment.

Where do you find Spanish broom?

- Its drought tolerance and ability to produce nitrogen allows this shrub to grow in sunny, dry areas with poor, often rocky soil.
- Like its relative Scotch broom, it is typically found in disturbed areas including eroded slopes, vacant lots and roadsides.
- Spanish broom is primarily found in northwest Washington.

What can you do?

- Learn to identify this Class A noxious weed.
- Please note that eradication is required in Washington State to prevent it from gaining a foothold.
- Report any sightings to your county noxious weed control board or to noxiousweeds@agr.wa.gov.



Washington State
**Noxious Weed
Control Board**

