

Help Eliminate This Foreign Invader

“Stinkwort”

Dittrichia Graveolens



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Stinkwort is a rapidly-spreading weed that is native to Morocco. It invaded Australia in 1860 and became a danger to their sheep industry. It arrived in California in 1984, in the Bay Area in 2005, and is now in Sacramento County.

We are farmers concerned with the lack of information on this weed that could quickly pose a major threat to California agriculture.

It was first reported on Florin Road in July, 2006. There was little information on it and no urgency to eradicate it. By 2008 it lined all the roads in the east county. The weed favors bare, sandy, low potash soils with minimal plant competition. It especially thrives along roadways that have been sprayed and in fields and firebreaks that have been plowed to knock down earlier weeds. Stinkwort emerges late in the growing season.

The plant resembles a tumble weed when it is growing. Each three-foot plant produces 15,000 hairy, airborne seeds. These seeds cause enterotoxemia in sheep and contact dermatitis in humans. The oily plant has a strong camphor odor that can flavor milk and meat via hay.



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Act Now!

Help keep this weed out of roadways, rangeland, creeks and city lots before it becomes endemic.

Treat it with 1% Garlon 3A or Roundup, or by mowing it before it blossoms.

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This is an attempt by local farmers to make up for the failure of the news media to address this serious threat to our community.