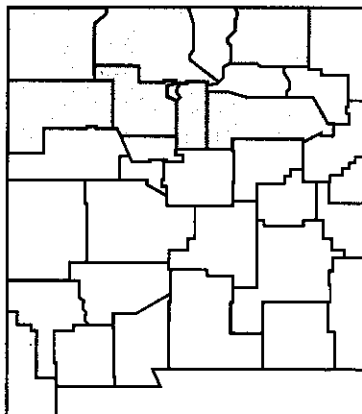


Class A

Diffuse knapweed

Centaurea diffusa

Herbaceous biennial (sometimes annual or short-lived perennial) that tolerates a wide range of conditions, but mostly infests disturbed areas such as roadsides, ditches, open fields, semi-arid deserts, rangelands, and grasslands.



Also Known As:

White knapweed

Stems/Leaves: Numerous branching, bushy stems (1-3 ft tall) are green to brown; leaves (4-8 in. long) alternate, often covered with grayish hairs; lower leaves are deeply lobed; upper leaves are linear and entire, DO NOT form wings on stem

Flowers: Single flower head (0.5 in. long, 0.2 in. wide) at end of each branch with white flowers (sometimes rose to light purple); below flowers are several straw-colored bracts each with comb-like edges and a spiny tip

Roots: Taproot

Reproduction: Seed; successful management prevents seed production/spread

Management Do's and Don'ts

- Mechanical removal must remove at least 3-4 in. of root crown
- Thirteen biological control agents have been introduced
- Herbicides are effective with proper timing
- Mow plants at late bud or early bloom to reduce seed production
- Fire is NOT effective

Diffuse knapweed
Centaurea diffusa

