



First year basal rosette

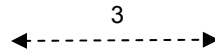
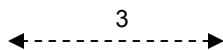
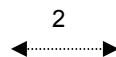
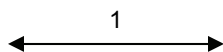


Second year flower stem



Flowers

Jan Feb March April May June July Aug Sept Oct Nov Dec



Management Techniques

1. (Early Spring) Hand Pull. Pull or dig out plants in the early spring when the soil is moist. Remove and bag the entire plant so that seeds are not spread. This technique may need to be done every year for several years in order to exhaust the seed bank.
2. (July) In home gardens, flower heads should be cut and bagged after the bloom period ends, to prevent the production and distribution of seeds.
3. (Early Spring or Late Fall) Herbicides. Glyphosate or triclopyr can be applied to the foliage of large infestations. Follow the application rates on the pesticide label. This technique should be done when native vegetation is dormant.

****Important Note:** Glyphosate is non-selective, avoid contacting non-target plants**

For More Information Visit:

<http://www.HawkeyeCWMA.org>

ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW PESTICIDE LABELS.

Proper training for prescribed fires is highly recommended.

Basic training can be found online at <http://training.nwcg.gov/courses/s130.html> and <http://training.nwcg.gov/courses/s190.html>

Related Websites:

<http://www.iowadnr.com/forestry/invasive.html>
<http://plants.usda.gov>
www.invasivespecies.gov
www.nps.gov/plants/alien

Credits:

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The **Hawkeye Cooperative Weed Management Area (HCWMA)** is a collective group of county, state, and federal agencies, nonprofit organizations and community associations who have come together to **combat the invasive species problem in Eastern Iowa**. The HCWMA serves Benton, Cedar, Iowa, Johnson, Jones, Linn, and Louisa Counties and is open to all interested parties. The Term CWMA, or Cooperative Weed Management Area, refers to a local organization that integrates invasive species management resources across jurisdictional boundaries in order to benefit entire regions.

Funding for this brochure provided by the US Forest Service through a Healthy Forest Initiative Grant.

All Hawkeye CWMA members (agencies, organizations, and individuals) are equal opportunity providers and employers.



Dame's Rocket

Hesperis matronalis



A SERIOUS THREAT
To
Iowa's Woodlands/Grasslands

What is Dame's Rocket?

- A short-lived perennial.
- A member of the Mustard family.
- Native to Eurasia.
- Is found in wildflower seed mixes.
- Easily escapes cultivation.
- Found in moist woodlands, roadsides, and grasslands.



An infestation of Dame's Rocket

What is the threat to Iowa?

- Grows in dense mats that compete with native vegetation for sun, water, and nutrients.
- Produces many seeds, which can remain viable in the soil for several years.

What does Dame's Rocket Look Like?

Identifying traits: Leaves come in the form of a rosette in the first year, and remain green throughout the winter. In the second year, Dame's Rocket blooms with white, pink, or purple flowers that grow from a flower stem.

Rosettes: In the first year, leaves come in the form of rosettes. Rosette leaves are simple, alternate, large, lance-shaped, and toothed. The rosettes remain green throughout the winter.

2nd Year

Leaves: The leaves of the second year plant come from the flowering stem in the spring. They are simple and alternate.



Native Alternatives:

Bluebell (*Campanula rotundifolia*)-

This native herbaceous perennial only grows up to 1.5 feet high. It blooms from June through September with small blue flowers. Plants can self seed or spread by creeping roots, but are not aggressive.

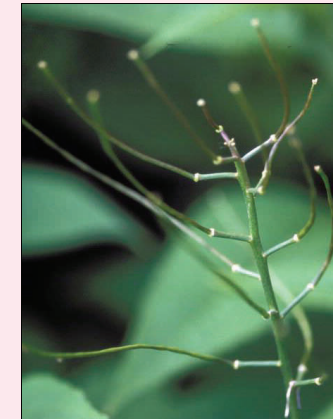


Hairy Wood Mint (*Blephilia hirsuta*)-

This native perennial can grow up to 3 feet high. It is a member of the mint family. It grows best in partial sun and moist or rocky soils. The white, blue, or purple whorls of flowers attract an array of pollinators from May through September.



Seed Pods: The seeds come in long, narrow, upright pods. Each pod contains an abundance of seeds. This is the main form of reproduction for Dame's Rocket. Seed's can remain viable in the soil for many years.



Flowers: Dame's Rocket blooms in May through June with white, pink, or purple flowers. Each flower contains 4 petals and is very fragrant.

What is the Difference Between Dame's Rocket and Woodland Phlox?

Woodland Phlox (*Phlox divaricata*) is a native herbaceous perennial found in Iowa. Woodland Phlox is often



confused with Dame's Rocket, since both bloom between May and June with purplish flowers.

One way to tell them apart is to look closely at the flowers. Our native phlox has 5 flower petals on it's flowers, whereas the flowers on Dame's Rocket have 4 petals. Also, Woodland Phlox only grows up to 1 foot tall, whereas Dame's Rocket can grow up to 3 feet tall.

It is important to properly identify plants before implementing any methods of control. This way we can apply the best control technique and help protect our native plants and animals.

Wildflower Seed Mixes

Dame's Rocket is one of the many non-native invasive plants that can often be found in wildflower seed mixes.

In order to help reduce the spread of non-native invasive plants, please always check the list of plants included on the back of wildflower seed mixes. Only buy seed mixes that include plants that are native to your region. Be aware that some packets may contain invasive plant seeds that are not listed on the packet. A better option may be to buy seed packets for individual plants, this way you can create your own wildflower seed mix and you will know exactly what is in it.