



Seedling

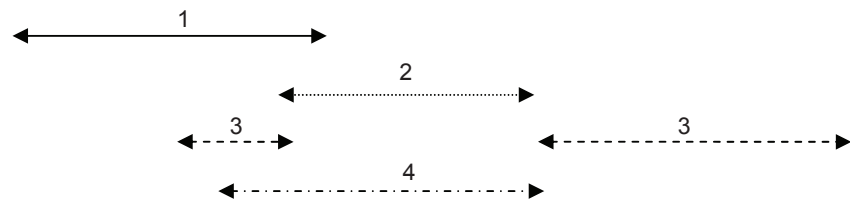


First year plant



Flowers in umbel formation

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



Management Techniques

1. (Spring) Prescribed burn. This does not kill the plants, however one of the first plants to green up after a burn are Wild Parsnip rosettes. *After the burn the area **MUST** be checked for rosettes and followed with technique 2 3, or 4.*
2. (Late May– Late July) Hand pull. Extreme caution should be taken with this technique—do not allow plant tissue to come into contact with bare skin. It is easiest to pull after a good rain or during a drought. *This should be followed with technique 3 or 4*
3. (Late April to Mid-May or August to October) Foliar Spray. Apply herbicide to leaves (while plant is in rosette stage) using a sprayer but not such a heavy spray that the leaves are dripping. In general, this technique will have a deeper root-kill if used in the fall, but can be used to top-kill the plant in the spring and summer. *This should be followed with technique 2 or 4. Choose **ONE** of the following herbicides:*
 - a. 1/10 an ounce per acre of Metsulfuron-methyl plus a surfactant
 - b. 1% 2,4-D solution
4. (May– July) Cut. The root should be cut just below ground level before seeds set using a sharp shovel or spade. Areas should be checked several times during the growing season. *This should be followed with technique 2 or 3*

Pants, Long Sleeves, Gloves, Shoes and Socks Should be Worn While Doing ANY Work Around Wild Parsnip

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.nwccg.gov/courses/s130.html> and <http://training.nwccg.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.

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

Wild Parsnip

Pastinaca sativa



A SERIOUS THREAT
To
Iowa's Prairies/Grasslands

What is Wild Parsnip?

- Biennial, occasionally perennial, herb.
- In the carrot family.
- Native to Eurasia.
- Came to the United States over 100 years ago.
- Looks very similar to Prairie Parsley (*Polytaenia nuttallii*).



Wild Parsnip heavily invades many roadsides.

What is the threat to Iowa?

- Frequently invades and modifies a variety of open areas.
- Wild parsnip is tolerant of a wide range of conditions.
- It is shade-intolerant and prefers sunny conditions.
- Causes a severe reaction when the sap comes in contact your skin.

What does Wild Parsnip Look Like?

Identifying traits: Grows up to 4 feet tall. Leaves are alternate with jagged teeth. Hundreds of yellow flowers appear from May to June.

First Year Plant: The rosette grows up to 6 inches in height during this stage. The seedling leaves are small and ovate while the first true leaves are arranged in spiral fashion. This is observed during the first year of growth. Fully developed rosettes have 10 to 15 pinnately compound leaves with broad ovate to oblong leaflets.



Flowers: Hundreds of small flowers are arranged in umbels at the tops of stems and branches. Each flower contains 5 petals. Flowers are yellow and bloom from early June to mid-July.

Native Alternatives:

Yellow Coneflower (*Ratibida pinnata*)-

This 3 to 5 foot tall plant has a bright yellow flower. It grows best in full sun with moist soil, but can grow in partial sun and in many kinds of soils. This a great addition to a garden with its long bloom period and as a bird, butterfly, and bee attractant.



Leaves: The leaves are alternate and have 5-15 leaflets. The leaflets are oval and with sharply toothed edges and deep lobes. The top-most stem leaves are reduced to narrow bracts and the flowering branches arise from their axils.



Seeds: The round seeds are flattened on one side with five ribs.

Similar Species:

Care should be taken not to confused Wild Parsnip with these native species.

Golden Alexanders (*Zizia aurea*)- Grows only 2 feet tall. Lacks a flower stalk on the central flower of each umbel. Each leaf only contains 3 leaflets.



Heart-leaved Meadow Parsnip (*Zizia aptera*)-

The main differing feature is the heart-shaped basal leaves. Also lacks a flower stalk on the central flower of each umbel.



Sand Milkweed (*Asclepias amplexicaulis*)-

This perennial plant grows between 8 and 32 inches tall and blooms from May to July. It is drought tolerant and prefers sandy or gravelly soils, and attracts bees and butterflies. The pinkish tan to greenish purple flowers add an interesting contrast in any garden, as do the large, wavy-edged leaves.



Avoiding Getting a “Parsnip Burn”

What Causes the Burn:

A Parsnip Burn is technically known as a phyto-photo-dermatitis, caused by the chemicals in wild parsnip.

After the chemical comes in contact with skin AND is exposed to UV light, it will cause a inflammation on the skin.

Symptoms:

- Blisters appear a day or two after sun exposure.
- Dark red or brownish discoloration, which can last up to 2 years.
- Often appears as streaks and long spots.

Tips to avoid getting a parsnip burn:

- Wear long sleeves, gloves, pants, covering as much skin as possible.
- Work in infested areas at night, when exposure to sunlight is minimal.
- Wash the juice off as soon as any comes in contact with your skin or clothes.

You've gotten it, Now what?

- Cover the area with a cool wet towel.
- If blisters are present try to keep them from rupturing for as long as possible.
- If they burst keep the area clean, intact, moist, and use an antibiotic ointment to help limit infection.



A Wild Parsnip Burn 4 Days After Exposure