

ENVIRONMENTALLY HARMFUL WETLAND PLANTS OF CONCERN IN NORTHERN WI

Prepared by Vilas County Land & Water Conservation Department, spring 2014



Garden loosestrife (*Lysimachia vulgaris*)

Also known as yellow loosestrife, willowweed and willowwort

When to look: When blooming during late summer, approximately July to September

Where to look: Moist habitats such as fens, wet woods, wetlands, riparian areas, lakeshores, stream banks, ditches

Key features: Erect rhizomatous (stoloniferous) perennial attaining a height of 3 to 5 feet or more. Stems and leaves are softly hairy. Leaves are 3 to 5 inches long and egg-shaped, usually growing 3 leaves in a whorl. Showy, bright yellow flowers grow in clusters near the top of the plant. Flowers have 5 petals joined at the base and sometimes have a red or orange eye. Base of the flowers is ringed by green sepals with orange-brown edges. Roots form creeping stems that are partly or entirely underground. Rhizomes can be up to 15 feet long. Once established, is highly competitive and able to spread aggressively by seeds and rhizomes into stands of established vegetation. Able to out-compete cattails and purple loosestrife.

Sources for additional information:

<http://luirig.altervista.org/photos-search/index2.php?rcn=17966>

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/animalsAndPlants/noxious-weeds/weed-identification/garden-loosestrife.aspx>

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/plants/weeds/GardenLoosestrife.html>

<http://piercecountyweedboard.wsu.edu/gardenloosestrife>