

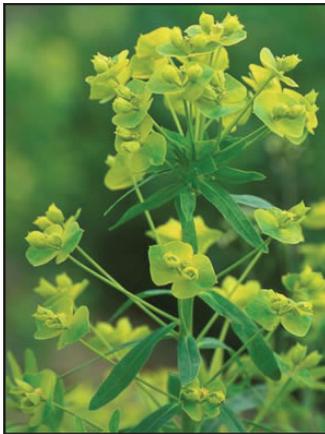


Leafy Spurge (*Euphorbia esula*)

LS EUPH ESU

Perennial with persistent vertical and horizontal creeping roots; grows to 0.8 metres tall.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
<i>Aphthona nigriscutis</i>											
	Overwintering Larva		Pupa		Adult	Adult/Larva	Larva		Overwintering Larva		



Distribution

Found scattered throughout the Southern Interior.

Quick ID

Heart-shaped floral leaves.
Greenish-yellow flower clusters.
Exudes milky juice when cut or broken.
Numerous pink buds on roots at stem base.

Native "Look-Alike" Species

Lemonweed, *Lithospermum ruderale*, (also known as Western Stoneseed or Yellow Puccoon) is distinguishable by stiff-hairy foliage with smaller lower leaves. Light yellow flowers have five spreading lobes.



Interesting Facts:

Dead plants appear to inhibit the growth of other plants. Large quantities can be toxic to grazing animals (and humans).

Manual Treatment: Tillage, mowing, and pulling are generally ineffective control treatments because of the plant's extensive root system.



Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
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Flowers: Greenish-yellow flowers on long stalks cluster in a flat topped umbrella shape. Flowers lack petals and sepals, relatively inconspicuous. Pairs of heart shaped floral leaves underneath flower clusters.



Leaves and Stems: Pale, bluish green foliage exudes milky sap when cut. Thickly clustered, smooth, hairless stems branched near the top. Leaves, 2.5 to 10 cm long and 6 mm wide, numerous and usually drooping, attached directly to stem in an alternate or spiral arrangement.

Seeds: Oblong, with three-celled capsule. Capsules forcibly burst open when ripe, propelling seeds up to 4.5 metres and aiding in dispersal. Viable up to 8 years.



Roots: Vigorous, creeping root system with pink, scaly buds which develop into new shoots. Can reach depth of 7.6 metres and extend 4.5 metres annually.

Reproduction and Dispersal: Initially by seed, then reproduces by re-sprouting from its extensive, creeping root system. Can also re-sprout from root fragments.

Habitat Preference: Tolerates a wide range of soil types, soil moisture levels and habitats. High genetic diversity resulting in quick adaptation to local growing conditions.

