



**WESTERN INVASIVES
NETWORK**

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*****NOXIOUS WEED ALERT*****

Oblong Spurge

According to the Oregon Dept. of Agriculture (ODA), oblong spurge was first identified in Oregon in 1991. Like so many of our invasive weeds in Oregon, it is an escaped ornamental native to Eurasia. ODA has classified oblong spurge as an "A" (T) list weed targeted for eradication. Currently, there is limited known distribution in Oregon but new sites are found every year.

Why is it a problem?

Much like its dear cousin leafy spurge (*Euphorbia virgata*), oblong spurge can be highly invasive. Unlike its cousin, it doesn't mind the shade. That said, oblong spurge is also comfortable in full sun. You'll find it growing in moist grasslands, exposed hillsides and foothills drainage bottoms as well as in forested riparian areas and pastures. All parts of the plant exude a milky white sap that contains compounds known to be skin irritants and toxic to cattle.

While oblong spurge tends not to invade at the rate of leafy spurge, it can still displace native vegetation and create a monoculture in short order. Dense stands of related spurge species have yielded over 2,500 seeds per square meter. The high seed yield and allelopathy give oblong spurge an advantage over many natives

What Can You Do?

As an A & T-list weed in Oregon, the first thing you should do is report any population

that you observe. The Oregon Dept. of Agriculture or your local weed control district may be able to help. Small populations on your own property can be removed by repeatedly digging up the plants in the fall. Larger infestations will likely require herbicide treatments, however, biocontrols are also available.

For more Best Management Practices, please check out these resources:

[US Davis Info Sheet](#)

[ODA Profile](#)

The Western Invasives Network is asking for your help in identifying populations of Oblong Spurge in Oregon.

How Do I Report Oblong Spurge?

Report Online at:

<https://oregoninvasiveshotline.org/>

-or-

Contact [your local CWMA](#)



The seeds of this spurge are nearing maturity, even though the plant appears to be showing damage from herbicide treatments. (Photo: Laurel Baldwin, Whatcom County NWCB)



Jenny Meisel, Marion SWCD, snapped this photo of a very healthy oblong spurge as it charges through the flowering cycle. Then Jenny killed it.