



Shiny geranium in late flower. (Anne Burgess)



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

Shiny Geranium

Shiny, or shining geranium (*Geranium lucidum*) is an invasive annual (biennial) in Oregon, and ODA B-List weed, that is rapidly invading forest understories throughout western Oregon and the Willamette Valley. Native to Eurasia and used medicinally across Europe, this accidental introduction has been wreaking havoc since the 1970's in Oregon.

Why is it a problem?

As is the case with many other invasive species, shiny geranium has the ability to rapidly displace native vegetation in forest understories. The normally resilient oak woodlands of Oregon have been hit especially hard. Not to leave any landscapes out, shiny geranium can be prolific in mixed-conifer forests, pastures and residential properties, too.

Shiny geranium flowers from April-June and shoots its seeds up to 20' away in late summer. These extremely viable seeds germinate in early fall, just as their neighbors begin to senesce and go dormant. By the following spring, the geranium will have formed a dense mat, inhibiting native species from growing. Understories in deciduous forests can be overtaken in just a couple seasons and large-scale control efforts have had limited success.

What Can You Do?

Prevention is always the best practice and this is especially true with shiny geranium. Limiting soil disturbance and bare soil is important in at-risk landscapes. Cleaning yard and recreational equipment is important to prevent seed transport.

If you are cleaning up a shiny geranium infestation, NEVER dump yard debris without thorough composting/solarization and never on public lands.

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

[Columbia Gorge CWMA-BMP](#)

[King County WA Profile](#)

The Western Invasives Network is asking for your help in identifying populations of Shiny Geranium in Oregon.

How Do I Report Shiny Geranium?

Report Online at:

<https://oregoninvasiveshotline.org/>

-or-

Contact [your local CWMA](#)



The lobed leaves of a shiny geranium glisten after a spring rain. Later in the year, these leaves will turn red. (Photo: Jenny Meisel)



Left unchecked, shiny geranium will quickly take over a suitable site. Unfortunately, it's not a very picky plant. (Photo: Jenny Meisel)