



Photo: Troy Abercrombie

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

# Tansy Ragwort

Tansy ragwort (*Senecio jacobea*) is a common invasive weed in Oregon from the aster family. Tansy was introduced in the 1920's and quickly became a problem as thousands of livestock were killed by the toxic foliage in contaminated pastures and feed.

## Why is it a problem?

Tansy is perfectly suited for Pacific Northwest land uses, preferring areas that have been disturbed by fire, grazing, logging and farming. This creates a nearly endless supply of vectors and makes coordinated control efforts difficult.

In addition to being highly toxic to livestock, tansy ragwort is an aggressive pasture invader and a prolific seed producer. Tansy displaces native species and decreases productivity of high value lands in Oregon.

Livestock tend to select away from tansy when a pasture is infested, however, this can ensure that the plants reach maturity if they're not managed otherwise. An unchecked population can quickly take over even the healthiest pastures.

## What Can You Do?

If you have just a few plants, hand pulling before they set seed or digging up rosettes can be effective. Some chemical treatments are also effective.

For larger populations, consult with your local SWCD. They can help you determine if biocontrol agents are present or arrange for biocontrol to be released on your infestation. If growing pasture for hay, be sure to keep tansy plants out of the finished feed.

For large infestations that are not on your own property, please use the reporting tools found below.

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

[OSU Extension Info Page](#)

[TechLine Invasive Plant News](#)

The Western Invasives Network is asking for your help in identifying populations of Tansy Ragwort in Oregon.

## How Do I Report Tansy Ragwort?

Report Online at:

<https://oregoninvasiveshotline.org/>

-or-

Contact [your local CWMA](#)



847 NW Monroe Ave.  
Corvallis, OR 97330

(541) 910-8769



*The frilly rosette of tansy ragwort is easy to identify. The plant will spend its first year in this stage, hoarding nutrients to build its root system in preparation for flowering/seed production the next year. (Photo: Jenny Meisel)*



*Cinnabar moth caterpillars are an important ally in the fight against tansy ragwort. (Photo: Jenny Meisel)*