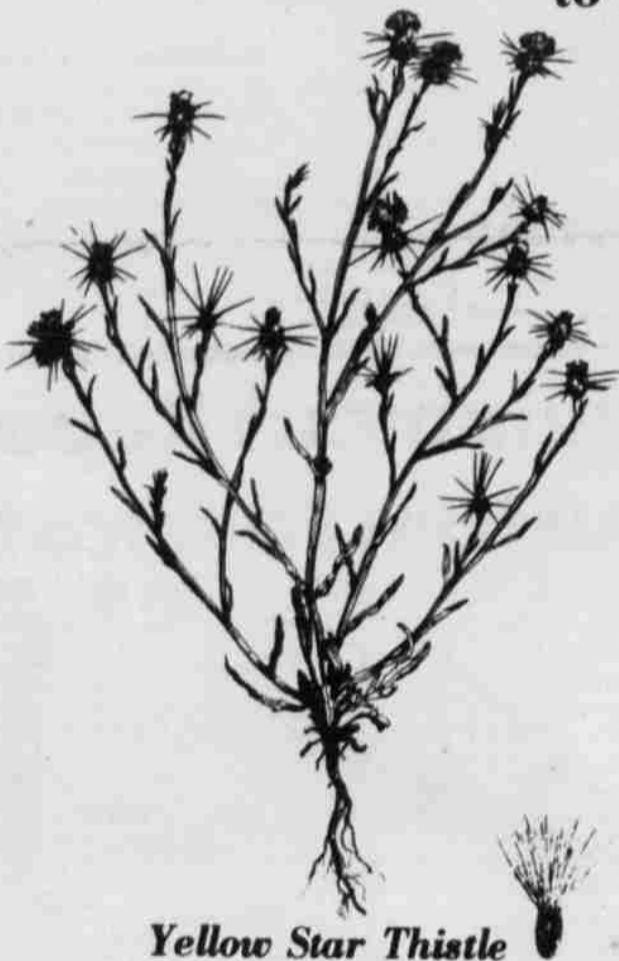


1981 Morrow Soil & Water Conservation District Annual Report

Stamping out a Menace

Noxious weed agronomist
to speak at annual meeting



Yellow Star Thistle

Just one of many noxious weeds threatening our county

Dave Humphreys, Oregon Department of Agriculture Weed Control Program, will address the annual meeting of the Morrow SWCD on Tuesday, March 2. Mr. Humphreys is an agronomist with the Noxious Weed Control Program and has area responsibility in Eastern Oregon. He will be presenting a slide program on potential weed problems such as skeleton weed, yellow star thistle (already existing in Morrow County), tansy ragwort and many others. He will also be presenting information on the structure of a weed control district, the need, advantages and development.

The Morrow SWCD is willing to accept the responsibility of a weed control program. Initial phases would possibly include an active information program to identify the location and extent of noxious weeds in Morrow County and a public awareness program.

MORROW SOIL AND
WATER CONSERVATION
DISTRICT ANNUAL
MEETING

Tuesday, March 2, 1982
7:30 p.m.; Lexington Grange
Hall
Coffee and donuts will be
served.

MORROW SOIL AND
WATER CONSERVATION
DISTRICT ANNUAL
REPORT
1981

The knapweed menace

No weed in Morrow County has received more attention from ranchers and range managers than diffuse knapweed. Along Willow and Hinton creeks, diffuse knapweed has invaded to the point that perennial bunchgrasses have disappeared and only annual grasses can survive on the same ground with diffuse knapweed.

Diffuse knapweed may be confused with Russian Knapweed with the main difference being the leaf. Diffuse has

linear, thin leaves and Russian has a wider, coarsely toothed leaf.

The weed is primarily a biennial but sometimes will produce seed and die in only one year, similar to an annual.

Diffuse knapweed invades poor condition range readily and will also find a toehold in good condition range proving that it is a keen competitor with native bunchgrasses and will crowd the bunchgrass out.

Trials are being conducted

in Morrow County with both biological and chemical controls. Several sites were selected for the seed fly and another location was found for the crown borer beetle. Both insects infest the plant and feed on it.

Chemical trials have been conducted on the Fay Riddle Ranch on Willow Creek. The most effective chemical was found to be one pound butyl Ester 2,4-D with 1.2 oz. of

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Annual Meeting

Tuesday

March 2, 1982

7:30 p.m.

Lexington Grange Hall