

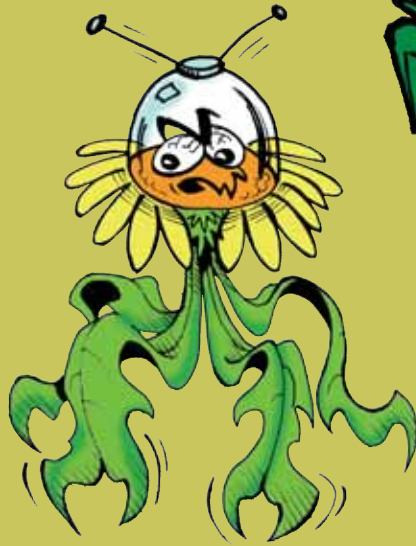
# what is a weed?



HOUNDS TONGUE SEEDS  
CATCH A RIDE ON OUR PETS



HOUNDS TONGUE



## weeds are aliens!

Weeds are plants that don't come from here and have no natural predators. They are bad for our environment, our farm and cattle land, and for our neighbourhoods.

Weeds grow quickly and spread by root pieces or by their many, many seeds. Their seeds can spread by wind, animals, birds, **people**, water, bikes and cars. Weeds have deep roots which makes them difficult to control.

## weeds are sneaky



OXEYE DAISY



SHASTA DAISY

## weeds disguise themselves

Some weeds try to fool you by looking like nice flowers.

Do you think these two flowers look the same? The Shasta Daisy is a nice flower that should stay in your garden. The Oxeye Daisy is a weed which you should pull up. Make sure you know the difference. Don't let weeds fool you.



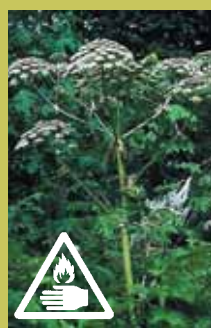
## weeds are bad



PUNCTURE VINE



PUNCTURE VINE  
IN A BIKE TIRE



GIANT HOGWEED



BITTERSWEET  
NIGHT SHADE

Weeds choke out good plants so cows and wild animals have nothing to eat. Some weeds are poisonous and will make you sick if you eat them. Some weeds give you an itchy rash if you touch them. Puncturevine can pop your bike tires with their burrs which also hurt when you or your pets step on them. Some bad insects like to hide in weeds - it's their home. Some weeds carry diseases that can hurt good plants.

If you see a prickly weed don't pull it. Some weeds will hurt you. Stay away from the weeds you see in the pictures above.

## what can you do?

### know your weeds

Learn what plants are weeds and what plants are good plants.

### pull it or report it!

If you see a weed pull it. If you are not sure ask someone if it's a weed. If it's a weed that can hurt you don't pull it, report it to an adult and let them get rid of the weed.

### don't pick & stay on trails

Don't pick flowers in forests or parks. When hiking, stay on trails or roads. Don't let hitch hiker weeds come home with you on your clothes, your bike or on your pets.

### more information:

Visit [www.weedsbc.ca](http://www.weedsbc.ca),  
[www.regionaldistrict.com](http://www.regionaldistrict.com)  
or phone 250-469-6218.

