

Invasive Plants of Wisconsin



Hedge-parsleys (*Torilis* sp.)

Authors: Brendon Panke and Mark Renz¹

Herbaceous biennials that establish as rosettes with parsley-like leaves. Plants flower in the 2nd year. Flowering stems are spreading, grooved, notably jointed, and covered in hair. Mature plants are typically 2-4' tall.

Legal Classification in WI:

Japanese hedge-parsley *Torilis japonica* – Prohibited/Restricted

Spreading hedge-parsley *Torilis arvensis* - Prohibited

Leaves: Stem leaves are pinnately compound, alternate, fern-like, triangular, slightly hairy, and 2-5" long. Leaflets are pinnately divided and clasp the stem. Rosette leaves are similar to stem leaves.

Flowers: Midsummer to late summer. White flowers found in small, loose, flat-topped umbels. **Japanese hedge-parsley** has two or more small bracts at the base of each umbel. **Spreading hedge-parsley** lacks bracts at the base of each umbel.

Fruits & seeds: Each flower produces a pair of bristle-covered fruit that can attach to fur or clothing. Fruit are initially rosy or white-green, but become brown as they mature.

Roots: Taproot.

Similar species: Wild carrot (*Daucus carota*) is not as hairy and has larger, flatter, and denser umbels. Caraway (*Carum carvi*) is shorter, has dark, oblong seeds and leaves that are more finely divided than the hedge-parsleys. Sweet cicely (*Osmorhiza*) has leaves that are not as fern-like. Wild chervil (*Anthriscus sylvestris*) flowers in spring. The bristle-covered seed of the hedge-parsleys is a key characteristic to distinguish these two hedge-parsleys from other similar species.

Ecological threat:

- Invades forest edges, fields, fencerows, roadsides, and disturbed areas. Although often found in areas or partial to full shade, it can tolerate a wide range of light intensity.
- Bristle-covered seeds are easily dispersed by animals.

¹ Associate research specialist and assistant professor of agronomy, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Cooperative Extension, University of Wisconsin-Extension.

CONTROL METHODS:**Non-Chemical Control**

Removal – Cutting the root from the stem or pulling is an effective individual plant control technique. Cut the entire tap root with a sharp shovel or spade 1-2” below the surface. Pull if soil conditions allow for the removal of the tap root. If flowers are present, bag material and dispose of in a landfill to avoid potential for seed spread.

Mowing – Mowing, timed just after bolting, but before seeds are present can be effective. Plants may re-sprout and still flower, but rarely do plants produce viable seed. Monitor populations and repeat mowing if concerned about seed production from re-sprouting plants flower. Care must be taken not to mow when mature seeds could be present as this will spread the seed throughout the site. While not known, it is believed that repeated mowing of populations for multiple years would be effective at reducing populations.

Prescribed burning – Spring burns can kill germinating seedlings and suppress above ground growth of established plant depending on fire intensity. After the fire, established plants will quickly re-sprout and reinvade areas; this management method is not recommended unless integrated with other techniques. Fire may benefit other species well adapted to this management (e.g. prairie grasses), resulting in improved competition with the hedge-parsleys. A hand-held propane torch can be effective for treating seedlings.

Chemical control²

Foliar – Apply directly to individual plants or broadcast across an infested area. Broadcasted foliar applications are typically the most cost effective treatment in dense infestations. Use lower rates on smaller plants and less dense populations, and higher rates on larger plants and denser populations.

<p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): glyphosate</p> <p>Common product name: Roundup</p>	<p>Rate – <i>broadcast</i>: 1.5 - 3.0 lb a.e./A <i>spot</i>: 1.0 - 2.0% (0.05 - 0.09 lb a.e./gal)</p> <p>Timing – Apply to rosettes in fall or spring or bolting plants.</p> <p>Caution – Applications can result in bare ground as glyphosate is not selective. Use aquatically labeled product if potential exists for solution to contact open waters.</p>
<p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): metsulfuron</p> <p>Common product name: Escort</p>	<p>Rate – <i>broadcast</i>: 0.3 - 1.0 oz/A (0.2 – 0.6 oz a.i./A) <i>spot</i>: 1 oz/100 gal (0.6 oz a.i./100 gal)</p> <p>Timing – Apply to rosettes in fall or spring or bolting plants.</p> <p>Caution - Metsulfuron can remain active in the soil for months depending on application rate. Has potential to leach through soil into ground water under certain conditions. Use of this chemical in areas where soils are permeable, particularly where the water table is shallow, may result in ground-water contamination.</p>

² Herbicide information is based on label rates and reports by researchers and land managers. Products known to provide effective control or in common use are included. Those that do not provide sufficient control or lack information for effectiveness on target species have been omitted. References to pesticide products in this publication are for your convenience and not an endorsement of one product over a similar product. You are responsible for using pesticides in accordance with the label directions. *Read the label before any application.*

Active Ingredient (A.I.): triclopyr	Rate – <i>broadcast</i> : 32 - 64 fl oz/A (1.0 – 2.0 lb a.e./A) <i>spot</i> : 1 - 2% (0.1 - 0.2 lb a.e./gal)
Common product name: Tahoe 4	Timing – Apply to rosettes in fall or spring or to bolting plants. Caution – Can volatilize, avoid application during high temperatures and low humidity, especially when the application contacts impervious surfaces. Overspray or drift to desirable plants should be avoided as even minute quantities of the spray may cause severe injury. Use aquatically labeled product if potential exists for solution to contact open waters.

This series of fact sheets was created in cooperation with University of Wisconsin-Extension Team Horticulture.

This material is based upon work supported by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, under Award No. 2009-45060-06000.

University of Wisconsin-Extension, Cooperative Extension, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin counties, publishes this information to further the purpose of the May 8 and June 30, 1914, Acts of Congress. An EEO/AA employer, the University of Wisconsin-Extension, Cooperative Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA requirements. If you need this information in an alternative format, contact Equal Opportunity and Diversity Programs, University of Wisconsin-Extension, 432 N. Lake St., Rm. 501, Madison, WI 53706, diversity@uwex.edu, phone: (608) 262-0277, fax: (608) 262-8404, TTY: 711 Wisconsin Relay.