Poison Hemlock is a member of the carrot family; **Apiaceae**.

Poison hemlock is a biennial with white flowers in umbels, appearing from late May to August. This plant can grow 6-10 feet tall. It is an introduced species from Eurasia. It was introduced into the United States as an ornamental and it can quickly take over disturbed areas and spread. One mature plant can produce up to 40,000 seeds. This plant is highly toxic to all livestock and humans. Several deaths of livestock a year are attributed to contaminated hay. Human deaths have occurred in past years.
The seed can remain viable in the soil for up to three years.

Where to get more information on Noxious Weeds:

Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board
1111 Washington St.
Olympia, WA 98504-2560
(360)902-2053
Website:
http://www.nwcb.wa.gov

Washington State Department of Agriculture
1111 Washington St.
Olympia, WA 98504-2560
http://www.agr.wa.gov

WSU Extension Office;
Cowlitz County
1946 3rd Avenue
Longview, WA 98632
(360)577-3014

Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Coordinator
Angelica Velazquez
(360)577-3030 ext.2540
Email:
velazqueza@co.cowlitz.wa.us

Poison hemlock
Conium maculatum

Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Control Board
207 Fourth Avenue North
Kelso, WA 98626
Tel. (360)577-3030
Fax (360)636-0845

Biological Control

The defoliating moth larvae *Agonopterix alstroemeriana* eats the leaves, stems and the developing inflorescence of poison hemlock.
The female deposits the oval pale yellow eggs to the underneath of the leaves in late April to May. Each female can deposit up to 200 eggs over a three week period. Eggs hatch in just six days. The larvae are light green with blackish brown head and approximately 0.4 inches long at maturity. Full development of larvae is completed in 24 days after hatching.

Integrated Pest Management Control Measures:

Mechanical:

Plant toxic to humans and livestock

- **Digging or cutting** plants to prevent flowering or seed spread can be an effective con troll method.
  DO NOT place poison hemlock cuttings in compost. DO NOT burn any plant parts.

  CAUTION- Wear gloves when handling this plant

Cultural:

- **Plant native vegetation** to compete with undesirable or invasive plant species. Vegetation competition can reduce establishment of invasive species, but this method alone will not completely control establishment of noxious weeds.

Biological:

- There is was a biological control being used in Washington State, but it had little affect.
  Defoliating moth *Agonopterix alstroemeriana*

Chemical:

Spring to fall foliar spray – Best when applied to growing plants but before flower sets

Garlon 3 A, Ortho Weed B Gon, Roundup Pro, Weedmaster,

Milestone and Milestone VM Plus

Stem Injections—Apply when the stalk is large enough to inject and before flowering

RoundUp Pro Concentrate, Aquamaster

Inject at 100% solution to hollow stem when stem size is at least 1/2 inch in size.

Check each chemical label for proper use, application restrictions and relevant information