Control Methods

**Mechanical** - Successful hand pulling or digging can be done on very small infestations, being sure to dig out the roots. Larger patches can be controlled by clean cultivation. Begin in early June and repeat as needed so that there is never more than 7-10 days of visible green growth. It could take up to 2 years to eradicate. Irregular tilling may spread infestations since small root pieces can produce new shoots. Mowing to ground level during flowering will reduce seed production, but does not provide control of the creeping root stocks.

**Biological** - There is a stem-boring weevil, *Mecinus janthinus*, that has shown to be fairly successful at suppressing dalmatian toadflax.

**Chemical** - Dalmatian toadflax can be controlled by herbicides, although it is difficult. There are herbicides available that are registered for use in California, but multiple treatments are needed for these herbicides to be successful. Herbicides are most effective when they are applied in the fall, after the dalmatian toadflax has flowered. This will reduce the number of plants that return in the spring. As always, read and follow herbicide label directions carefully. Contact your local County Agriculture Department to determine the best herbicide for your situation.

History

Dalmatian toadflax is a native of southeastern Europe, in the Mediterranean Region. It was introduced into the Northern United States in the late 1800’s as an ornamental, because of its snapdragon-like flowers. Dalmatian toadflax is now found in 34 states, and throughout most of Canada.

Distribution

Dalmatian toadflax is most distributed in the western United States. It has a limited distribution in California. In northeastern California, there is an infestation in the Lake Almanor region of Plumas County. The Sierra Valley also has several sites.

For More Information:

- Plumas-Sierra Counties Department of Agriculture (530) 283-6365
  Website: [countyofplumas.com](http://countyofplumas.com)
- California Invasive Plant Council
  Website: [www.val-ipc.org](http://www.val-ipc.org)

Photos, and text provided by:

- California Department of Food and Agriculture
- California Invasive Plant Council
- Spokane County Weed Board
  Website: [www.spokanecounty.org/weedboard](http://www.spokanecounty.org/weedboard)
- Photos By; Spokane County, Oldenettel, Jerry, Washington State, Belliston, Nathan

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- California Department of Transportation
- Renewable Resources Extension Act
- California Department of Food and Agriculture
- United States Forest Service

Plumas-Sierra Counties Dept. of Agriculture

We Control and Eradicate Invasive Weeds

(530) 283-6365
What does Dalmatian Toadflax look like and how does it grow?

HABITAT: Dalmatian toadflax thrives in coarse, well-drained soils and takes root on roadsides and rangelands, in fields, overgrazed pastures, and waste areas. Establishment of dalmatian toadflax is also favored by soil disturbance, such as construction, fires, and overgrazing.

GROWTH: Dalmatian toadflax has deep and widely spreading roots, little pieces of which can start a new plant. The stems and leaves have a waxy coating, making it harder for herbicides to stick. The light-green, waxy leaves are heart-shaped, alternate, and the upper leaves clasp the stem.

FLOWERS: Flowers are bright yellow with long spurs and orange-bearded throat that resembles a snapdragon. It blooms from late spring into fall. Dalmatian toadflax has also been referred to as Butter-and-eggs.

HEIGHT: Dalmatian toadflax is an attractive plant with erect stems that can grow up to 3 feet tall.

SEEDS: The seeds are tiny and produced in abundance. Dalmatian toadflax is an extremely aggressive weed because it spreads both by producing seeds and growing from root pieces.