

SLELO PRISM Partners Share These Goals:

PREVENTION

Prevent the introduction of invasive species into the SLELO PRISM region.

EARLY DETECTION & RAPID RESPONSE

Detect new and recent invaders and rapidly respond to eliminate all individuals within a specific area.

COOPERATION

Share resources, expertise, personnel, equipment, and information.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Collect, utilize, and share information regarding surveys, infestations, control methods, monitoring and research.

CONTROL

Control invasive species infestations by using best management practices, methods and techniques to include:

ERADICATION - Eliminate all individuals and the seed bank from an area.

CONTAINMENT - Reduce the spread of established infestations.

SUPPRESSION - Reduce the density but not necessarily the total infested area.

RESTORATION

Develop and implement effective restoration methods for areas that have been degraded by invasive species and where suppression or control has taken place.

EDUCATION / OUTREACH

Increase public awareness and understanding of invasive species issues through volunteer monitoring, citizen science and community outreach.

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*This QR code will link
to more resources.*



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE:

St. Lawrence Eastern Lake Ontario
Partnership for Regional
Invasive Species Management

SLELO PRISM

C/O The Nature Conservancy

(315) 387-3600 x 7724

www.sleloinvasives.org

Get Involved

Help find invasive species
of interest in your region.

For details, contact

megan.pistolese@tnc.org

**Stay informed, join our listserv
Follow these steps to join:**

1. Email cce-slelo-l-request@cornell.edu
2. Type "join" in subject space
3. Leave email body blank and send

Cover photo: Steve Dewey, Utah State University, bugwood.org.
Red leaf photo: William M. Ciesla, Forest Health Management
International, bugwood.org. Inside right column bottom right
photo of leaves: Noxious Weed Program, Kansas Department of
Ag. Inside right column top right leaf photo: Bruce Ackley, The
Ohio State University, bugwood.org. Flower photo:
<https://www.minnesotawildflowers.info/flower/leafy-spurge>.

SLELO PRISM

St. Lawrence Eastern Lake Ontario Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management



What You Should Know About Leafy Spurge (*Euphorbia esula*)



SLELO PRISM
*"Teaming up to stop the
spread of
invasive species"*

What is Leafy Spurge?

Leafy spurge (*Euphorbia esula*), also known as wolf's milk, is a long-lived perennial native to Eurasia.

It was likely introduced to North America as either an ornamental or crop seed impurity in the early 1800s. It was first discovered in the US in Massachusetts in 1827. Since then, it has spread widely and can now be found covering much of the northern U.S. and prairie regions in Canada.

Leafy spurge is capable of completely taking over large swathes of land by outcompeting native vegetation and reducing the yield of more desirable forage species.

Most livestock avoid grazing sites that have as little as 10% cover of leafy spurge. Below is a photo that demonstrates how abundant leafy spurge populations can become.



You Can Stop the Spread:

Leafy spurge is on the New York State Prohibited & Regulated Invasive Plants list. You can stop its' spread by not buying or selling this invasive plant.

Control & Management:

Leafy spurge is able to resist multiple types of control, as it is capable of regenerating from small pieces of root. Additionally it produces large numbers of seeds that are viable up to seven years. Therefore, a combination of two or more of the following control methods is best for the successful control of leafy spurge.

Biological Control: 5 species of flea beetles (*Aphthona* spp.) have been found effective. This method doesn't produce immediate results, as it takes several years for the flea beetles to establish effective populations.

Grazing: Sheep and goats, unlike many other livestock species, are unaffected by the normally toxic juices found in the steam of leafy spurge. Grazing will not eradicate leafy spurge populations, but it will weaken the plants by forcing them to re-sprout thus diminishing their root reserves.

Chemical Control: Standard and pre-emergent herbicides are options for control. Areas treated need to be monitored to ensure suppression. Be sure to follow all label directions when applying herbicides.

Leafy Spurge Identification:

Leaves are numerous and attached directly to the stem. They are 1-4 inches in length, narrow, waxy with smooth edges and grow alternately and sometimes in a spiral arrangement. Leaves turn from green to a yellowish-red color in late summer.



Flowers are 1/8th inch in size, yellow-green in color with clusters of rounded petals. Bloom time occurs in June.

