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The Enemy: Scentless chamomile (*Tripleurospermum perforatum*)

The Strategy: This is a biennial bushy, branched plant has recently been found invading many of our roadsides, pastures, and other disturbed sites. This plant is has white flowers with a yellow center similar to a Daisy (even Oxeye). Daisy's usually only produce one or two flowers per plant where this plant can produce hundreds of radiant pungent smelling flowers. The leaves are feathery looking and the plant reaches a height about two feet. This plant was originally found in the area near Grays Lake.

Attack: Scentless chamomile is a prolific seed producer. Once established the plant does an excellent job of out competing desirable plants. Due to the plants unusual characteristics livestock normally choose not to eat it. It likes to grow along waterways where the seeds can float down the waterway and contaminate other lands. Where it exists in pastures the livestock tend to eat everything else around it beyond recognition. As it is a fairly dense plant it really shades out desirable plants.

Defense: Scentless chamomile is in the aster family (thistles, knapweeds, dandelions) thus control is similar. Mechanical control can be effective when the patches of weeds are new. It is a fairly new invader therefore researchers have not put much effort into insects that will eat on it. Tordon 22K, Curtail, Milestone, or Opensight provide excellent control. We have also had good luck with Telar XP and Escort XP, but little control with 2,4-D and Roundup. Application early in the year is best, but if not possible to get it early try applying the herbicide when the flowers are in the bud stage. This is a new plant to the region so we all need to do our part to keep it from becoming the next Noxious Weed.

