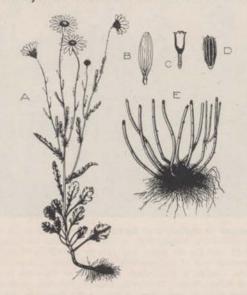
OXEYE DAISY

(Chrysanthemum leucanthemum)



Oxeye daisy is a perennial which reproduces by seeds and by sprouting of a short rootstock (E) or rhizome. It is otherwise known as a white daisy, white weed, field daisy, and the poorland flower.

It is found in meadows, pastures, old fields, waste places, and lawns; it seems to thrive in soil of low fertility where competition is weakened.

Stems are erect and smooth, branching more in the upper portions (A). Stems may reach 3 feet high. Each stem bears only one composite flower head.

Leaves are alternate and lobed, especially the basal leaves which are more broad than long. Near the top, leaves are more lance-shaped, but they still are somewhat scalloped. All leaves are fuzzy.

Flowers resemble other daisies. The inner cone of disc flowers is yellow, each small flower (C) has a single petal. The sterile ray flowers (B) around the outer edge are white. Each small flower within the head bears one seed (D). It is oval and curved. One side is nearly straight and the other convex. There is a knot or tubercle where the flower parts were attached to the seed. The seed is black with several gray or white ribs or ridges.

If oxeye daisy becomes established, it can be a serious weed problem, because it can spread by underground rootstocks. Vigorous, well-fertilized turf can crowd this weed out. Sometimes the plant will have a somewhat horizontal growth when mowed in turf. If grasses are weak, the broad daisy leaves smother surrounding grasses. It manages to bear flowers and seeds even in this flattened condition. It is said to be moderately tolerant to most herbicides at standard strengths. Apply treaments of 2,4,5-T and 2,4-D at the highest rates recommended for perennial weeds when the weeds are in the early bud stage and while plants are actively growing. Treatments repeated annually will reduce stands.

Spot treatments with arsenicals or ammonium sulfamate will kill the daisies, but treaters are advised to restrict these materials to the daisies, since contact with grasses will kill them, too.

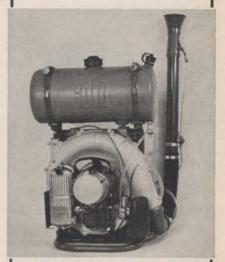
Prepared in cooperation with Crops Research Division, Agricultural Research Service,
United States Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, Maryland.

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