

Have you seen this invasive plant?

Mediterranean sage is an aggressive species that outcompetes desirable forage plants in our rangelands.

Learn more at www.nwcb.wa.gov



During the first year, the leaves are basal and have stalks. They are 4-12 inches long and covered in dense hairs, giving a silver-green appearance. In mature plants, the upper leaves are opposite, smaller, and clasp the stem.



Mature plants grow up to 3 feet tall and have almost square stems. When leaves are crushed, they produce a sage-like smell.



Clusters of 4-6 white flowers are found along the branched inflorescence. The mint-like flowers are irregularly shaped with an upper and lower lobe.

Why is Mediterranean sage (*Salvia aethiopsis*) a noxious weed?

- Mediterranean sage outcompetes beneficial forage plants and is unpalatable to livestock and wildlife.
- This biennial or short-lived perennial invades both disturbed and undisturbed habitats.

Where do you find Mediterranean sage?

- Well-drained riparian areas, pastures, and rangelands are the most common habitats to find this plant.
- Mediterranean sage is very limited in distribution and is found primarily in southwestern Washington.
- Common mullein grows in similar habitats and can be confused with Mediterranean sage; however, mullein flowers are yellow, and leaves are not toothed and do not smell like sage.

What can you do?

- Learn to correctly identify this Class A noxious weed.
- Please note that eradication is required in Washington to prevent it from gaining a foothold.
- Report any sightings to your county noxious weed control board or to noxiousweeds@agr.wa.gov.

