

Ox-eye Daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*)

Description

Perennial with creeping rhizomes. Grows to 1 m tall. Stems solitary to several, sparingly branched, usually glabrous, with a sage-like odor. Basal leaves alternate, egg-shaped to spoon-shaped, stalked, pinnately lobed or toothed, up to 15 cm long. Stem leaves are reduced, becoming unstalked and nearly entire toward top. Flowers heads with white ray and yellow disk flowers, solitary at the ends of branches. Involucral bracts narrowly lanceolate, with narrow dark-brown outer margins. Achenes cylindrical or nearly so, black, 10-ribbed with no pappus.



Key Identifiers

- ✓ All parts have a unpleasant odor
- ✓ White daisy like flowers
- ✓ Egg-shaped to spoon shaped leaves that are lobed or toothed

Location in Canada

Ox-eye Daisy has been reported in BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario and Quebec.

Resources

<http://www.invasiveplants.ab.ca/Downloads/FS-OxeyeDaisy.pdf>

<http://linnet.geog.ubc.ca/Atlas/Atlas.aspx?sciname=Leucanthemum%20vulgare>

Similar species

Scentless Chamomile (*Tripleurospermum indorum*) has similar looking flowers but leaves are very different and can easily distinguish the two.

Shasta daisy/Alaska Shasta Daisy (*Chrysanthemum maximum/Leucanthemum x superbum 'Alaska'*) a more robust plant with larger flowers, is a cultivar that originated from Oxeye Daisy and was originally sterile, but can revert back to being fertile. If Shasta Daisy is escaping from ornamental plantings, it has become fertile, treated then as Ox-eye Daisy.