

# Common yarrow

*Achillea millefolium* L.

Sunflower Family

## Key identifying traits

- ❑ Leaves are finely divided and feather like
- ❑ Leaves are distributed evenly along stems
- ❑ Plants grow 1-2' tall
- ❑ Flowers are white to pinkish in a flat topped cluster
- ❑ Plant stems are covered with wooly hair
- ❑ Aromatic plant

## Biology and ecology

- A perennial plant spreading by seeds and also has a weak spreading root system
- It is known to be scattered through the temperate Northern Hemisphere
- Some sources say this plant is a native and some say it has been introduced but all agree it is widespread across the U.S.
- Usually not considered highly aggressive but has been found to be invasive in fields and pastures especially when they are being grazed
- Native Americans used it for a variety of medicinal purposes, including remedies for coughs, colds, throat irritations, toothaches, respiratory diseases, and to treat wounds and stop bleeding.

## Control

*Prevention* - Learn to identify plants; start monitoring early in the season

*Biological* - No known biological control in our area

*Cultural* - Plant competitive grass or other cover crop try not to overgraze areas

*Mechanical* - The plant can survive mowing but tillage will usually control it

*Chemical* - There is some information in the [PNW Weed Management handbook](#) for specific chemical recommendations, it is susceptible to mixes with dicamba or triclopyr

*Where found* - Scattered almost everywhere throughout Stevens County; can be a problem in heavily grazed areas



All photos courtesy Mike Haddock,  
<http://www.lib.ksu.edu/wildflower/>

