

Orange hawkweed

Hieracium aurantiacum L.

Sunflower family

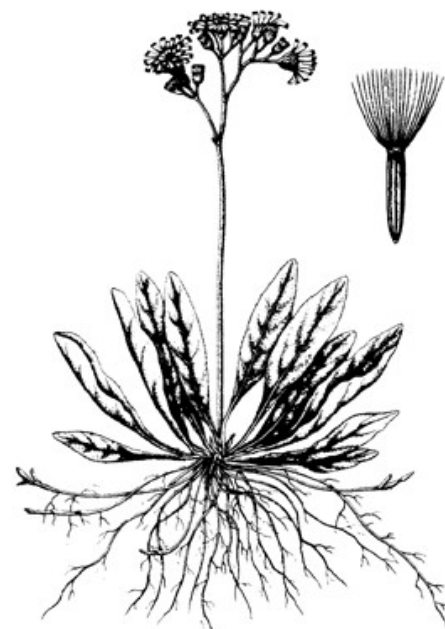
Key identifying traits

- ❑ Several attractive red-orange flower heads per stem arranged in an umbrella like cluster
- ❑ Flower petals are strap-shaped with notched tips
- ❑ The leaves are mostly basal and bristly-haired
- ❑ Stems about 12 inches tall with stiff black glandular hairs and only occasional small leaves
- ❑ Plants contain milky juice and develop above ground runners, like strawberry plants



Biology and ecology

- A perennial spread by windborne seeds, below ground rhizomes and above ground stolons
- Can form near monocultures with few other plants apparent on the dominated sites
- Tolerates shade but thrives in open meadows
- Has fibrous root system and does well in lawns
- Flowers in late June and July



Control

Prevention - Learn to identify plants; know your property; beware of fill dirt, hay and seed from outside your area, clean vehicles and equipment that have been in hawkweed areas

Biological - None available, research ongoing

Cultural - Good vegetative cover helps avoid initial infestation but can invade healthy sites

Mechanical - Will not withstand regular tillage but cutting and pulling are ineffective unless done with frequency and diligence to eliminate re-growth

Chemical - Several effective at label rates; when working around desirable trees shrubs etc. care must be exercised to avoid damage (follow label)



Where found – Less frequent in Stevens County than close relative Yellow hawkweed but found in forest meadows, roadsides and lawns at Loon Lake, Cottonwood Creek, South Basin, Colville, Peterson Swamp and more