

Lythrum salicaria

Lythraceae (Loosestrife Family)

Category:

Prohibited Noxious



- **Information:** Native to Europe, Asia and Africa, introduced as an ornamental, poses huge threats to riparian habitat.
- **Life cycle:** Perennial.
- **Root:** Short rhizomes and taproot.
- **Leaves:** Clasping, lance-shaped leaves with a notched base and smooth margins are opposite or whorled on stem.
- **Stems:** 1.5-3m tall, square or octagonal.
- **Flower:** Clustered on vertical terminal spike extending 5cm to 90cm down stem, one or more flowering branches; rose to purple with four to eight petals.
- **Seed/Fruit:** Small brown capsules with many seeds, can produce up to 2.5 million seeds/plant, remains viable up to 20 years.
- **Control:** Handpick, chemical.

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