

## Thistle, Nodding

*Carduus nutans*

Asteraceae (Sunflower Family)

Category:

Prohibited Noxious



- **Information:** Native to Europe, also known as Musk Thistle, weed of rangeland.
- **Life Cycle:** Biennial, rosette in the first years growth, flowers in the second.
- **Root:** Fleshy taproot.
- **Leaves:** Clasping, alternately arranged on the stem, spines along edge, hairy, sometimes pinkish, wavy edge.
- **Stems:** Spines along stem, 20cm - 2.5m tall, hairy.
- **Flower:** Large, nodding, purple, thorny bract below the flower.
- **Seed/Fruits:** Pappus present, each flower head may produce up to 1200 seeds.
- **Toxicity:**
- **Control:** hand pick, chemical control before seed set.

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