

## Common tansy

### *Tanacetum vulgare*

#### Description

Introduced to North America for medicinal purposes and as an ornamental plant; toxic.

#### Habit

Perennial forb, grows to a height of 2-5 ft.

#### Leaves

Alternate and pinnately compound with deeply divided, toothed fernlike leaflets. 4-10 in long and 1.5-3 in wide and strongly scented when crushed.

#### Stems

Erect; 2-5 ft tall; grows in clusters; slightly hairy; woody and purplish red near ground.

#### Flowers

Yellow in color, daisy-like flower heads, 1/3 in wide and arranged in a showy, flat-topped inflorescence at the top of the stem; blooms from July through October.

#### Fruits and Seeds

Produce numerous tufted seeds, spread by wind





and water.

### **Habitat**

Native to Europe. Found in open disturbed areas, roadsides, pastures, fields, prairies, hedgerows, gardens and naturally disturbed environments, such as flood-scoured river shores.

### **Reproduction**

By seed that are dispersed by wind and water or expansion of short rhizomes.

### **Similar**

Stinking willie (*Senecio jacobaea*), a poisonous pasture weed & non-aromatic; Lake Huron tansy (*Tanacetum bipinnatum*).

### **Monitoring and Rapid Response**

Can be cut, tilled or dug up; removing entire rootstock. Mow prior to flowering, repeat mowing as needed to prevent seed set. Effectively controlled using any of several readily available general use herbicides such as glyphosate.

### **Credits**

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