

## Dalmatian toadflax

### *Linaria dalmatica*

#### Description

Originally introduced to North America as an ornamental plant in the late 1800s.

#### Habit

Short-lived, herbaceous perennial; narrow and upright, growing up to 4 ft tall; Taproots may reach depths of 4-10 ft, and lateral roots can extend 12 feet from parent plant.

#### Leaves

Heart-shaped, waxy, pale green in color, and 1-3 in long with clasping bases.

#### Stems

Somewhat woody at the base, and frequently branched in the upper portion. Waxy in texture.

#### Flowers

Bright yellow in color with orange markings and



elongate spurs and occur in simple racemes on

the stems, 1.4-2 in long and snap-dragon like;

Blooms May through September.

### **Fruits and Seeds**

Fruits are capsules that are 0.5 in long and contain an average of 140 to 250 small black-brown, seeds with wings.

### **Habitat**

Native from central Europe to central Asia. Found in disturbed sites, roadsides, clear cuts, railroad right-of-ways, fences, croplands, pastures, and rangelands. Prefers dry sites with coarse, well-drained soil.

### **Reproduction**

By seed.

### **Similar**

Butter and eggs or Yellow toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*) is similar in appearance, but has more linear pointed leaves, and is generally smaller.

### **Monitoring and Rapid Response**

Hand-pulling, mowing, and tillage can be effective in preventing seed productions and starving toadflax roots; effective herbicides for toadflax include chlorsulfuron, dicamba, picloram and imazapic. It may be necessary to retreat every 3-4 years; flower feeding beetles (*Brachyterolus pulicarius* and *Gymnetron antirrhini*) reduce seed production.

### **Credits**

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