



Salt Cedar has yet to be found in Saskatchewan. Our borders are bound to be breached soon by this saline invader. We all must do our part in early detection and management to control the issue before it starts.



Do Not Let Salt Cedar Invade Saskatchewan Rivers, Wetlands, Riparian Zones and Streams! Start the Control Today!

Although Salt Cedar is a pretty shrub to have around, it is also extremely devastating to the ecosystem that it inhabits. Shown above, Salt Cedar has over taken the banks of a substantially sized river. The river bed is dry and the soil has been turned saline due to the Salt Cedar presence. Prevent this dazzling destroyer from ruining Saskatchewan's riparian areas today by reporting Salt Cedar sightings!

For more information on this and other invasive alien plant species, or to report sightings of them, please contact:

Swift Current Creek Watershed Stewards Inc. (SCCWS)

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Salt Cedar

(*Tamarix spp.*)



Have you seen this shrub?



Where is it found?

Salt Cedar, or *Tamarix spp.*, is native to Asia and Africa, but was introduced to North America in the 1800's for it's use as an ornamental shrub, windbreak and stream bank stabilizer. Salt Cedar has escaped from the garden into the wild. Because it is not native to our area and takes over landscapes, it is considered an invasive alien species. Salt Cedar can grow in a wide variety of environments; particularly along stream banks, lake shores, irrigation ditches and wetlands. Salt Cedar has not been found in the western provinces of Canada yet, but is present in almost all of the United States, including North Dakota and Montana.

It is estimated that the presence of Salt Cedar in Western United States will cost between \$7 and \$16 billion US dollars in lost ecosystem function over the next 55 years!

Management / Control

Salt Cedar is an extremely difficult plant to control and almost impossible to eradicate completely. The combination of the following must be used to gain any headway on controlling this vicious plant.

Environmental and Economic Impacts

This shrub has a great reproductive capacity; 600,000 seeds per plant per year. This allows Salt Cedar to easily form large patches and crowd out all native plants, leading to drastically lower native woody and herbaceous plant abundance and composition.

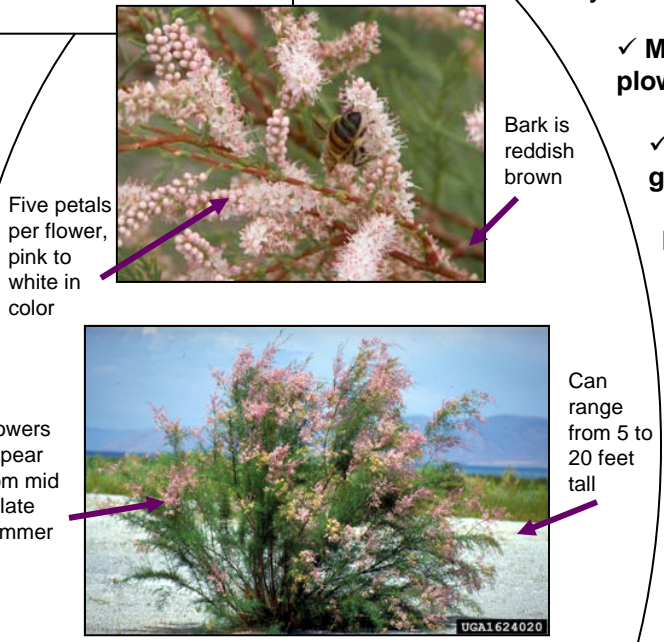
Salt Cedar's large taproots allow this plant to uptake extremely large amounts of water; up to 200 gallons per day per plant. These plants have been known to drain lakes and waterways. Water tables can be lowered to the point below native tree root zones, causing mass tree fatalities.

Salt Cedar also exudes salt, damaging the quality of the soil it inhabits. Areas where Salt Cedar is found become saline and unsuitable for any other plants to inhabit the location.

In areas where Salt Cedar is able to flourish, significant economic damage is present through loss of ecosystem function.

Salt Cedar presence has been reported to have a negative effect on riparian bird populations. Waterfowl tend to completely avoid an area infested by Salt Cedar. As Salt Cedar presence increases in an area, over all biological diversity of native vegetation and fauna decreases.

Salt Cedar is also known as "Pink Cascade"



Five petals per flower, pink to white in color

Bark is reddish brown

Flowers appear from mid to late summer

Can range from 5 to 20 feet tall



Thick tap root



Leaves are small and flat, resembling evergreen shrubs

- ✓ **Mechanical removal of small plants via root plowing and burning**
 - ✓ **Glyphosate Herbicide treatments on plant re-growth**
- Mechanical methods of mowing, chaining, ripping and bulldozing have been found to be unsuccessful due to extreme re-growth
- Glyphosate should be applied in late spring to early fall, particularly when adequate soil moisture is available for good growing conditions
- After applying herbicide, do not remove the top growth for three years, otherwise re-sprouting might occur
- Biological control methods are currently being tested, but not being used in mass control methods
- * Never spray herbicides near a waterway !**

The Best Way to Control Salt Cedar is Prevention!!! – Early Detection and Control Is Imperative!



Salt Cedar flowers and shrubs can look very different

