

# WANTED

# Goat's Rue



Invasive.org

### Immature Plants

- Plant stems are hollow and cylindrical
- Alternate, pinnately compound leaves with 6–10 pairs of leaflets (1/2 – 2 inches long)
- Tip of each leaflet has a small hair-like appendage



Brooks s.n.



Invasive.org

### Growth Habit

- Perennial legume that ranges from 2-6 feet in height.
- Found in cropland, water-ways, pastures, fencelines, roadways, and wet, marshy areas.



Massey University, New Zealand

### In Bloom

- Purple to white, pea-like flowers
- Plant blooms from June throughout the growing season

### Goat's Rue (*Galega officinalis*)

A. Top of plant, showing arrangement of flowers on stem and compound leaves (0.65x); B. Arrowhead shaped stipules – leaf-like appendages at the base of each leaf (1.3x); C. Flower (5x); D. Seed, top and side views (9.75x); E. Old fruit, a legume (seed pod) (1.3x).

- Also known as Professor Weed and contains an alkaloid, galegin, that can be fatal to livestock when consumed in great quantities.



King County Noxious Weed Control Program, WA

### Seed Pods

- Seed pods are narrow and 1-2 inches in length.

### Plants commonly confused with noxious Goat's Rue



Connecticut Botanical Society

*Baptisia australis* or Blue False Indigo. A plant commonly sold by nurseries.



Dan Tengila

*Tephrosia virginiana*  
A native plant also known as Goat's Rue.



Kansas State University Library

*Vicia villosa* or Hairy Vetch. A cover crop use in agriculture.

**DON'T** Let livestock forage on noxious Goat's Rue

**DON'T** Buy, trade, plant or propagate noxious Goat's Rue

**DO** Distinguish noxious Goat's Rue from other similar species (see website)

**DO** Report locations of any noxious Goat's Rue

# www.massnrc.org/pests