



Fact Sheet 98-74

WANTED— Dead, Not Alive!

This outlaw weed is hiding out! Find it. Eradicate it.

Saltcedar

Alias: *Tamarix ramosissima*

Saltcedar is a small, shrubby tree native to Eurasia and is often referred to as tamarisk. It was introduced as an ornamental and was also used for streambank erosion stabilization. Saltcedar has naturalized throughout the desert southwest, particularly along waterways and in wetlands. It is well adapted to salty, alkaline soils, to temperature extremes, and to windy sites. Its aggressive root system uses much ground water, outcompeting native species. In many sites, tamarisk forms a pure stand that is almost impenetrable and few, if any, plants grow under its canopy. Salts accumulate in the soil from the tamarisk leaf litter and from the excretion of salt from living leaves. Do not be tempted by this ornamental, share it with your gardening friends, or allow it to spread. Nurseries in Nevada have been asked not to sell this plant.



Please do not be tempted by this attractive ornamental, and do not share this plant with your gardening friends! Its aggressive root system uses much ground water, outcompeting native species.

Distinguishing features:

- ◆ Grows 5 to 20 feet tall.
- ◆ Smooth woody stems are reddish brown, turning gray and cracked as the tree ages.
- ◆ Leaves are small, scale-like, and give the slender stems a wispy green appearance.
- ◆ Flowers are pink to white, blooming from spring through late summer. They are very attractive and from a distance look like pink feathers at the end of the stems.

Take action:

- ◆ Report its location to the land owner, gardener, manager or park ranger.
- ◆ Explain that this plant is an invasive, injurious weed in Nevada.
- ◆ Early action is imperative. It saves money, time, and effort, and protects the environment.

Your reward:

A cleaner, healthier environment and the satisfaction that you have helped make the difference!

For more information about controlling this and other invasive weeds, contact:

Nevada Cooperative Extension
775-784-1334;

Nevada Division of Agriculture
Bureau of Plant Industry,

775-688-1180; or

Your local Weed District manager or
Conservation District: