

# Biocontrol in Saskatchewan

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- Coordinated by SARM Plant Health Officers
- Biocontrol agent collection, release, and monitoring within SK

# How to Access Biocontrol in SK?

- Leafy Spurge Beetle Collection Days at Besant
- For other biocontrol agents: Contact your Plant Health Officer
  - Have release and monitoring data
  - Help pick a suitable site for release

# Leafy Spurge Flea Beetles



*Aphthona* sp.

# Leafy Spurge Beetle Collection Days

- Open to all SK landowners, RMs, and FNBs to come collect leafy spurge beetles for release on their property
- PHOs are present to provide information and assist in packaging beetles
- Sweep nets provided
- Free to attend

# Leafy Spurge Beetle Collection Days

Take place every July

- Usually first week of July (depends on beetle emergence and weather)
- Email [joanne.kwasnicki@gmail.com](mailto:joanne.kwasnicki@gmail.com) for 2022 updates



# Scentless Chamomile Seed Weevil



*Omphalapion hookeri*

- Seed feeder
- Can consume up to 40% of seeds/head
- Need to complete life cycle on the weed every year to survive



# Scentsless Chamomile Gall Midge



*Rhopalomyia tripleurospermi*

- Lay eggs and create galls on growing points
- Disrupts growth and reduce flowering



# Stem Gallling Toadflax Weevil

*Rhinusa pilosa*

- Targets yellow toadflax
- Creates galls on stems
- Takes nutrients from weed
- Currently establishing populations in NW



# Houndstongue Root Weevil



## *Mogulones crucifer*

- First SK release in 2020
- Larvae feed on roots, stunt growth and prevent seed set
- Adults feed on foliage
- Potential for rapid and widespread control

# Do You Have a Suitable Release Site?

- Noxious weed infestation of more than 12 acres per quarter section of land
  - Containment around perimeter of infestation may be needed
- Weeds present in areas where herbicide application is not possible
  - Environmentally sensitive areas

# How to get Biocontrols?

## Ask your PHO

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