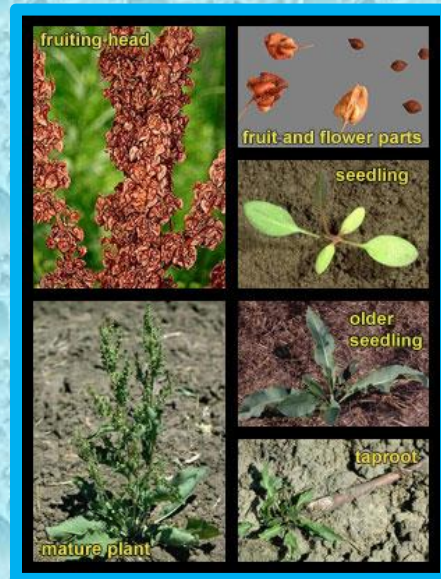


# Curly Dock



Curly dock, a perennial broadleaf plant, usually grows in wet areas and is frequently associated with overwatering or standing water in low areas. It inhabits agricultural land and other disturbed areas. Plants may be poisonous to livestock when ingested in quantity. Common in ditches, roadsides, wetlands, pastures, agronomic crop fields (especially those in perennial crops like alfalfa), orchards, disturbed, unmanaged sites, and disturbed moist places.



*The mature plant is a reddish brown color, and produces a stalk that grows to about 1 m high. It has smooth leaves shooting off from a large basal rosette, with distinctive waved or curled edges. On the stalk flowers and seeds are produced in clusters on branched stems, with the largest cluster being found at the apex. The seeds are shiny, brown and encased in the calyx of the flower that produced them. This casing enables the seeds to float on water and get caught in wool and animal fur, and this helps the seeds to spread to new locations. The root-structure is a large, yellow, forking taproot. It grows in roadsides, all types of fields, and low-maintenance crops. It prefers rich, moist and heavy soils.*

*Curly dock is easily controlled in non crop areas with herbicides, however, be careful not to apply where water is present unless using an approved herbicide for that type of site. For the best control, treatment should occur prior to seed set. Control in cropping systems can be more difficult. Please consult the District for specific recommendations.*