

# Orange hawkweed

**Appearance:** Perennial herbaceous plant, 10-20" high; each hairy stem bears one or a dense cluster of dandelion-like, orange or yellow flowerheads. The stem grows from a basal rosette of hairy leaves. Hawkweeds colonize and can rapidly dominate a site. Loss of native plant diversity in infested areas, orange hawkweed colonizes rapidly forming a solid mat of rosettes. The plant may have allelopathic effects on neighboring plants.



**Roots:** Spreads primarily vegetatively through runners, (4-12 per flowering plant), rhizomes, and sporadic root buds.

**Leaves:** Hairy rosette made up of entire or minutely toothed leaves, spatula-shaped, 4-6" long. They are dark green above and lighter green beneath.

**Flowers:** Bright yellow or orange dandelion-like, 0.5" to .75" in diameter; arranged in a dense flat-topped cluster of flowers.

**Seeds:** Each flower bears 12-30 tiny, columnar seeds with a light-brown tuft of bristles for wind dispersal. Seeds are viable in the soil for up to 7 years.

**County Impact:** Orange hawkweed was first identified on Sourdough Creek in the Big Horn National Forest in 2016. Treatment efforts to contain and possibly eradicate the infestation has begun.



**Control:** Most effective control is with clopyralid or 2,4-D in the rosette stage.

