
Cypress Spurge

Euphorbia cyparissias



Needle-shaped, soft green leaves



Yellow-green flowers

Euphorbia grows to 1' and exudes a white, milky sap when any part is broken.

- Leaves are needle-shaped, but soft to touch, up to 1", and bright green.
- Flowers are yellow-green, clustered at the top of the plant, but mature to red from May–August.
- Seeded fruits are .05" tiny and 3-lobed, explosive capsules. *Euphorbia* creates colonies by means of its extensive root system.

NOTE: *Euphorbia* is toxic to livestock, and can irritate human eyes, mouth, and gastrointestinal systems.



HOW TO CONTROL:

- Pull, dig, or mow very short every month during spring/summer. Reproduces by roots, rhizomes, and seeds, making it very difficult to eradicate.
- Herbicides are not dependable because of the extensive root system.
- Biocontrol: Eleven species of European insects were released in North America to control Cypress Spurge, but have had unreliable results.

NOTE: Wear gloves to prevent skin blistering and avoid contact with eyes.

Sources

Cypress Spurge

<https://www.invasiveplantatlas.org/subject.html?sub=3116>;

<https://www.invasive.org/weedcd/pdfs/wow/cypress-spurge.pdf>;

https://wiki.bugwood.org/Archive:BCIPEUS/Euphorbia_cyparissia

Controls

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