



CITY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT DIVISION



To Protect and Preserve Natural Habitat

**ZELZAH PARK
“DIRTY DOZEN” WEEDS IDENTIFICATION**

THIS BOOKLET WAS CREATED TO ASSIST DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARK STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS IN THE IDENTIFICATION OF PROBLEMATIC WEEDS. THE NAME “*DIRTY DOZEN*” WAS GIVEN TO THE TWELVE PLANTS THAT PREVENT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIVE FLORA DUE TO THEIR HIGH REPRODUCTIVE RATE AND ACCELERATED GROWTH. THE “*DIRTY DOZEN*” ARE IDENTIFIED, ILLUSTRATED, AND LISTED IN THE ORDER THAT ADVERSELY AFFECT THE NATURAL ECOSYSTEM OF **ZELZAH PARK**.

MAIN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THIS BOOKLET

- 1) Support and restore the natural ecosystem found in **Zelzah Park** through the management and control of invasive plants.
- 2) To establish an Integrated Pest Management Program specific to **Zelzah Park**.
- 3) Build valuable resources for Department of Recreation and Parks staff and the public.

Some exotic plants, as well as native vegetation, with aggressive qualities may be considered a weed if it adversely affect the sustainability of the natural areas and encroaches into developed landscapes. Weed problems can be largely avoided by careful landscape design, soil preparation before planting, and adequately scheduled irrigation and mulching. Weed control can be achieved through a combination of the following five control methods:

PREVENTIVE: Preventive method is defined as keeping the weeds from entering or becoming established in the area. Monitoring the area for early detection of unwanted plants is crucial for the preventative methods to work. If a new weed is discovered, immediate actions need to be taken in order to prevent seed production and establishment.

CULTURAL: Cultural method is defined as maintenance practices that will make it difficult for weeds to grow or become established, (i.e., select proper plants for the location, irrigation management, and pruning).

BIOLOGICAL: Biological method is defined as the usage of living organisms for weeds control. Some of the organisms used for biological control include fungus, bacteria, nematodes, and beneficial insects. When available, biological methods are very effective in weed control.

CHEMICAL: Chemical method is defined as the usage of a synthetic or natural toxic product called herbicide for weed control. Selective herbicides are designed to control a specific group of plant. Non-selective herbicides such as 'Round Up' will control all plants. When using a chemical herbicide, it is mandatory to read and always follow what the label instructs.

MECHANICAL: Mechanical method is defined as the usage of physical force to injure, remove, and control weeds. Mechanical methods can be achieved through the usage of mowers, hand-pulling, hoeing, and burning.

ZELZAH PARK
“DIRTY DOZEN”

Here is a list of the 12 weeds that have been determined to be of concern at **ZELZAH PARK**. It was prepared as an aid for anyone who will become involved in the preservation of the native flora within the Park.

SCIENTIFIC NAME

COMMON NAME

Fraxinus uhdei

ash tree seedling

Ricinus communis

castor bean

Salsola iberica

Russian thistle

Brassica spp.

wild mustards

Avena fatua

wild oats

Nicotiana glauca

tree tobacco

Chenopodium berlandieri

netseed lambsquarters

Sonchus oleraceus

annual sowthistle

Chamaesyce maculate

spotted spurge

Portulaca oleracea

common purslane

Oryzopsis miliacea

smilgrass

Amaranthus palmeri

palmer amaranth

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Fraxinus* spp.
COMMON NAME: ash tree seedling



NOTES: *Fraxinus velutina*, velvet ash and *Fraxinus dipetala*, foothill ash are California native plants which can be confused with the weed species. DO NOT ERADICATE NATIVE SPECIES!!! Be certain of the identity of the plant before removing it.

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Ricinus communis*
COMMON NAME: castor bean



NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Salsola iberica*
COMMON NAME: Russian thistle



NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Brassica* spp.
COMMON NAME: wild mustard



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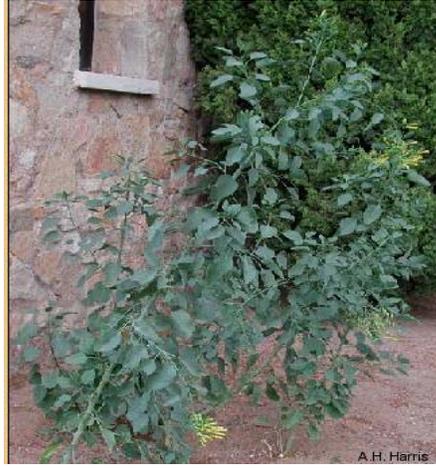


SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Avena fatua*
COMMON NAME: wild oats



NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Nicotiana glauca*
COMMON NAME: tree tobacco



NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Chenopodium berlandieri*
COMMON NAME: netseed lambsquarters



NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Sonchus oleraceus*
COMMON NAME: annual sowthistle



NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Chamaesyce maculate*
COMMON NAME: spotted spurge



NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Portulaca oleracea*
COMMON NAME: common purslane



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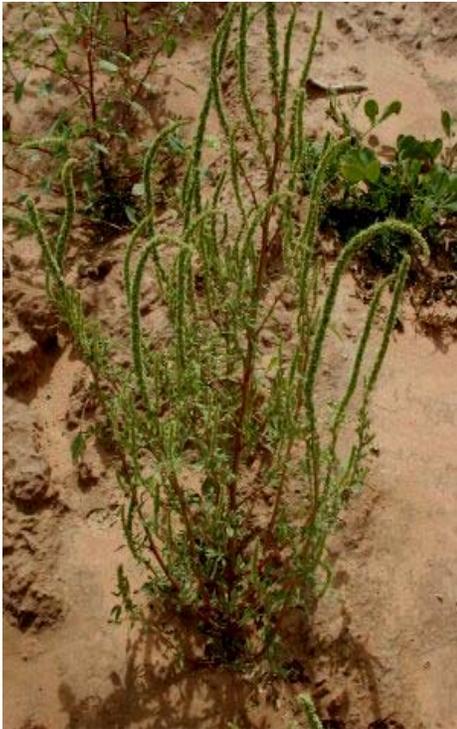


SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Oryzopsis miliacea*
COMMON NAME: smilograss

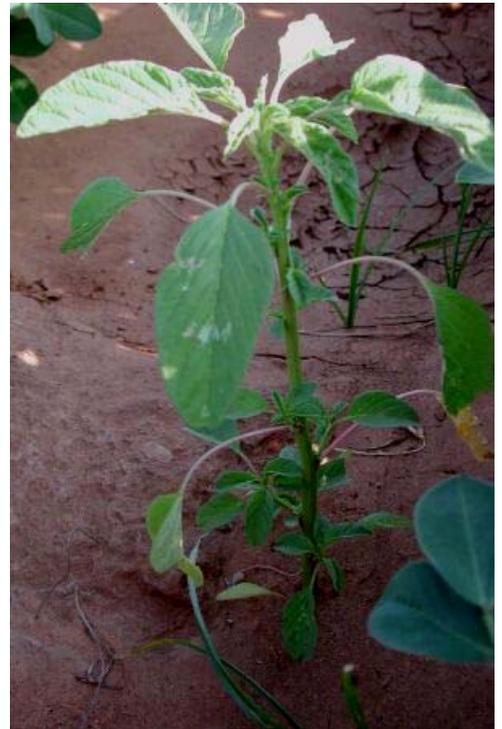


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SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Amaranthus palmeri*
COMMON NAME: palmer amaranth



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ZELZAH PARK HISTORY/INFORMATION OF THE PARK

Zelzah Park is another example of one of the jewels The Department of Recreation and Parks is proud of: Being the perfect spot for a break after a horseback ride, or a drink of fresh water, the park is situated at the foothills of the Santa Susana Mountains Range, with Los Angeles River watershed underneath, Considering the park location, a visual inspection was done to obtain a preliminary tree/plant inventory resulting with a limited number of tree species, and at its slopes, an array of native and exotic plant species that can be easily manage, considering that for the most part the slopes are covered with turf. The exotic plant material can be removed or take under control using some of the methods mentioned at the beginning of this publication.

REFERENCES

Tom D. Whitson, Larry C. Burrill, Steven A. Dewey, David W. Cudney, B.E. Nelson, Richard D. Lee, and Robert Parker. 2000. Weeds of the West. 9th edition.

University of California, Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources, UC Davis Statewide Integrated Pest Management Project. 1994. Pests of landscape, trees and shrubs: An Integrated Pest Management Guide. IPM Educations and Publications.

Photos downloaded from University of California Berkeley website at:

[Http://elib.cs.berkeley.edu/dams/](http://elib.cs.berkeley.edu/dams/)

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