

# MD OF RANCHLAND AG BULLETIN

News, updates, and information for our community.



## CHOOSING SAFE WILDFLOWER SEEDS TO PROTECT NATIVE SPECIES

Spring is here, and it's the perfect time to pick up wildflower seed mixes for your garden. However, given their widespread availability and the tendency for people to accept them without question, it's crucial for those of us dedicated to preserving native species to raise awareness about the potential dangers these seed packets pose.

When purchasing seed packets, avoid "wildflower" mixes as they often contain non-native species. Ensure you know the exact contents, including scientific names, to avoid confusion. Check where the seeds were collected to prevent weed seeds. Look for clear growing instructions and recommended hardiness zones. Avoid mixes with various plant types.

Invasive plants can escape gardens and spread uncontrollably, causing environmental degradation and economic loss. The Alberta Weed Control Act mandates the control or eradication of invasive species. The Alberta Invasive Species Council's *Grow Me Instead* brochure provides guidance on selecting non-invasive plants.

To discuss further, please contact Erika at [ag3@ranchland66.com](mailto:ag3@ranchland66.com) or 403-646-3131.

Source(s): 1) [https://anpc.ab.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/wildflower\\_seeds\\_guidelines.pdf](https://anpc.ab.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/wildflower_seeds_guidelines.pdf) 2) <https://abinvasives.ca/take-action/#be-plant-wise-grow-me-instead>

## GRANT TO APPLY FOR

<https://rdar.ca/funding-opportunities/ofcaf>

### On-Farm Climate Action Fund

OFCAF provides financial support to producers to accelerate their adoption and implementation of on-farm Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs) to lower Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, support production efficiency, sustainability and resiliency on their farm operations.

RDAR is delivering OFCAF in three activity categories: Improving Nitrogen Management, Increasing Adoption of Cover Cropping, and Expanding the Adoption of Rotational Grazing. Learn more on the RDAR website.

Contact Erika at 403-646-3131 or [ag3@ranchland66.com](mailto:ag3@ranchland66.com) with any questions.

## WEED TO WATCH

### Oxeye Daisy

*Leucanthemum vulgare*

ID characteristics: a perennial plant with yellow-centered flower heads surrounded by white petals, lance-shaped basal leaves with toothed margins, and slender, upright stems that can grow up to 1 m tall. It thrives in various soil types, especially poorer soils, and is commonly found in pastures, meadows, roadsides and waste areas.



Source: <https://abinvasives.ca/fact-sheet/oxeye-daisy/>



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<https://mdranchland.ca/>

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## ORGANIZATION HIGHLIGHT

### Alberta Emerald Foundation

<https://emeraldfoundation.ca/>

The Alberta Emerald Foundation, a registered charity since 1992, is dedicated to accelerating environmental excellence by recognizing Alberta's visionary leaders and sharing best practices through educational narratives. With over three decades of impact, the foundation aims to build a future where all Albertans advance environmental excellence in their communities. Their mission focuses on promoting environmental leadership, maintaining integrity, fostering community collaboration, and embracing diversity and inclusion.

