



*Geranium lucidum*

WA – Class B Noxious Weed, Prohibited Plant List

OR – Class B Noxious Weed

## Shiny Geranium

Shining Crane’s Bill, Shiny Leaf Geranium

**Family:** Geraniaceae

**Origins:** Native to Asia, Europe, and Northern Africa. It was first identified in the United States in 1971, growing in an Oregon cow pasture.

**Range:** Found in California, Oregon, and Washington states. It is rapidly spreading west of the Cascades in Oregon and Washington.

**Habitat:** Commonly found on roadsides, forest edges, and woodland understories. It thrives in moist, partial-shade conditions but can grow in full sun.

**Impact:** Shiny Geranium establishes quickly, utilizing the early spring moisture to dominate the site by pushing out many other early-season seedlings of wildflowers and perennial plants. As soils dry, few other plants are able to emerge through the well-established mats of Shiny Geranium. Each flower produces a seedpod containing five seeds that burst open when ripe, ejecting the seeds up to 20 feet. If conditions are favorable, each seed may remain viable for up to 2 years. In some cases, it may germinate up to five generations in a single growing season.

**Description:** A small, annual, or biennial herbaceous plant that grows up to 19 inches tall. The kidney-shaped leaves are shiny, rounded, and divided into lobed sections. Each main lobe has three smaller lobes at the tip. Bright green leaves shade to red in maturity. Stems are typically upright to spreading and often have a bright reddish tinge.

Small, pink, 5-petaled flowers grow in pairs on small stems. Beneath the flower heads are small seed pods that are green to red. Plants begin to sprout in fall and by spring are completely emerged.

**Common Look-Alikes:** Dove’s-Foot Geranium, Herb Robert.

*\*Not known to be toxic.*



## Integrated Pest Management - Control Methods

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) combines various methods such as mechanical, cultural, biological, and chemical controls to manage pests. IPM offers the possibility of improving the efficiency of pest control while reducing its negative environmental impacts. For more information, see the Cowlitz County Noxious Weed’s IPM Resources & Strategy Guide or contact your local Noxious Weed Control Board to develop a customized IPM plan.

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## Non-Herbicide Control

<b>Mechanical</b> (pulling, cutting, digging, etc.)	Hand-pulling or digging small infestations provides effective control if repeated throughout the year due to disturbance of the seed bank and additional germination. This must be performed early in the year before flowering and seed production.
<b>Cultural</b>	Cover with a thick layer of mulch. For improved results, cover with cardboard first, then a thick layer of mulch. Repeat applications of mulch may be necessary. If the plants have begun to flower, dispose of plant parts in a sealed bag in the trash.
<b>Biological</b>	Effective biocontrol agents for Shiny Geranium are not available. Shiny Geranium is in the same genus as many critical native species in the western United States, and any introduction of biological control agents at this time could be problematic.

## Herbicide Control: Foliar Broadcast Treatment

<b>Aminopyralid</b> (Milestone)	<b>Timing:</b> Apply to actively growing plants before flowering. <b>Remarks:</b> Many desirable plants can be seriously injured or killed; using a non-ionic surfactant will help enhance control under adverse conditions; do not apply near the root zone of desirable trees; do not compost plant material that has been sprayed by this product; do not use manure from fields that have been sprayed with this product; do not apply near water.
<b>Triclopyr +2,4-D</b> (Crossbow, Crossroad)	<b>Timing:</b> Apply to actively growing plants before flowering. <b>Remarks:</b> Annual treatments needed to control seedlings; observe all grazing and harvesting restrictions; avoid drift to sensitive crops; dust on plants may reduce effectiveness; do not apply near water.
<b>Imazapyr</b> (Imazapyr, Arsenal, Habitat)	<b>Timing:</b> Apply to actively growing plants before flowering. <b>Remarks:</b> Spray complete uniform coverage, but not to the point of runoff; dust on plants may reduce effectiveness; may be harmful to some tree species; refer to the label for use in aquatic areas.
<b>Glyphosate</b> (Rodeo, Killzall, Kleenup, Roundup)	<b>Timing:</b> Apply to actively growing plants before flowering. <b>Remarks:</b> Spray complete uniform coverage, but not to the point of runoff; dust on plants may reduce effectiveness; Glyphosate is nonselective, it injures or kills any vegetation it contacts; refer to the label for use in aquatic areas.

\* Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Control Board does not endorse any product or brand name. Brand names are listed as an example only. Other commercial products may contain the listed active chemical for herbicide control. Always read and follow the safety protocols and rate recommendations on the herbicide label. **The Label is The Law.**

This control sheet includes excerpts from the Written Findings of the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board (WSNWCB), [nwcb.wa.gov](http://nwcb.wa.gov). Herbicide information from the PNW Weed Management Handbook (ISBN 978-1-931979-22-1) and product labels.