Hirschfeldia incana (L.) Lagr.-Fossat

Shortpod mustard

Family: Brassicaceae
Range: California, Nevada and Oregon.
Habitat: Disturbed places, roadsides, fields, pastures, agronomic crops, orchards, ditch banks, vineyards, and dry washes.
Origin: Native to the Mediterranean region.
Impact: Spreads into natural areas displacing natives. Becoming more problematic in wildland areas of southern California.
California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC) Inventory: Moderate Invasiveness

Shortpod mustard is an erect yellow-flowered mustard to 3 to 4 ft tall. It is a biennial or short-lived perennial, occasionally a winter annual. The lower leaves of mature plants are obovate, irregularly pinnate-lobed and toothed, with the terminal lobe larger than lateral lobes on a long stalk. The upper leaves do not clasp the stem. The stem bases are moderately to densely covered with stiff, downward-directed hairs. The basal leaves usually form a rosette, and the leaves are moderately to densely covered with stiff grayish hairs.

The flowers are pale yellow, not as bright as most other mustard species. They form in an elongated raceme. The mature fruit is 8 to 15 mm long – shorter than in other common yellow-flowered mustards –and appressed to the stem. Shortpod mustard reproduces only by seed, although plants can resprout from the base when damaged. Seed production is high. Most seeds disperse by falling close to the parent plant. Like most other mustards, the seeds likely survive in the soil for several years.

NON-CHEMICAL CONTROL

Mechanical (pulling, cutting, disking)	Manual removal or cultivating before seeds develop, particularly during the seedling stage, can control populations. Manual removal and other control methods implemented over a period of years will eventually exhaust the seedbank.
Cultural	Neither grazing nor prescribed burning have been tested for the management of shortpod mustard, but it is not expected that these would be effective.
Biological	Because of its close relationship to important cultivated members of the Brassicaceae, there is no biological control program developed for the management of shortpod mustard.

CHEMICAL CONTROL

Few herbicides give effective control of shortpod mustard. Many herbicides used on annual and biennial mustards are less effective on this perennial. Research is ongoing. Herbicides are listed by mode of action and then alphabetically. The order of herbicide listing is not reflective of the order of efficacy or preference.

AROMATIC AMINO ACID INHIBITORS	
Glyphosate *Roundup, Accord XRT II*, and others	**Rate:** 1 to 2 pt product (*Roundup ProMax*)/acre (0.56 to 1.1 lb a.e./acre) **Timing:** Early postemergence to small plants. **Remarks:** Glyphosate provides suppression of shortpod mustard. It has no soil activity and is nonselective. Its effectiveness is increased by addition of ammonium sulfate.
BRANCHED-CHAIN AMINO ACID INHIBITORS	
Chlorsulfuron *Telar*	**Rate:** 0.25 to 0.5 oz product/acre (0.19 to 0.375 oz a.i./acre) **Timing:** Preemergence to early postemergence. **Remarks:** Mixed selectivity, generally safe on grasses. Most effective preemergence. Use a surfactant

	for postemergence applications. Fairly long soil residual. Seems to be less effective in arid environments.
Sulfometuron *Oust* and others	**Rate:** 0.5 oz product/acre (0.38 oz a.i./acre) **Timing:** Preemergence to early postemergence to small plants. **Remarks:** Use 0.25% v/v non-ionic surfactant to improve herbicide uptake.

RECOMMENDED CITATION: DiTomaso, J.M., G.B. Kyser et al. 2013. *Weed Control in Natural Areas in the Western United States*. Weed Research and Information Center, University of California. 544 pp.