

Orange Hawkweed (*Hieracium aurantiacum*)

Description

Stems are erect, usually leafless, and covered with bristly hairs. They grow 15 to 90 cm tall and contain a milky sap. There may be one to several stems per plant. Leaves are mostly basal, elliptical, covered with bristly hairs, and is 10 to 15 cm long. Any stems leaves are much smaller. Flowers are composed of ray flowers with square edged, notched petals. The orange-red flowers are borne in clusters of 5 to 30 heads at the ends of stems. The involucre (base of the flower) have long bristly hairs and blackish glands.

This is the only hawkweed, native or introduced, to have orange flowers.

Key Identifiers

- ✓ Orange flowers, with square edges than are notched
- ✓ Leaves, stems and buds covered in bristly hairs
- ✓ At flowering produces rhizomes and/or stolons
- ✓ Milky sap



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Location in Canada

All Canadian provinces are thought to have orange hawkweed, BC east to Nfld. Populations are being reported in Clearwater, Wetaskiwin, Leduc, Yellowhead and Woodland Counties within the province of Alberta.

Resources

<http://www.weedinfo.ca/en/weed-index/view/id/HIEAU>

Similar species

Native Hawkweeds (*Hieracium* sp) Many native hawkweeds are in North America but none will produce stolons and their flowers are yellow or white.

http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/publications/00230/Hawkweed%20key_PNW_R3-June06.pdf

<http://msuextension.org/publications/AgandNaturalResources/EB0187.pdf>

Orange Agoseris (*Agoseris aurantiaca*) Forms a basal cluster of leaves grow several leafless stalks with milky sap, topped by solitary coppery-orange flower heads. Leaves are long, narrow, and broadest above middle, often with a few large teeth.

<http://science.halleyhosting.com/nature/basin/sun/dandy/agoseris/aurantiaca.htm>