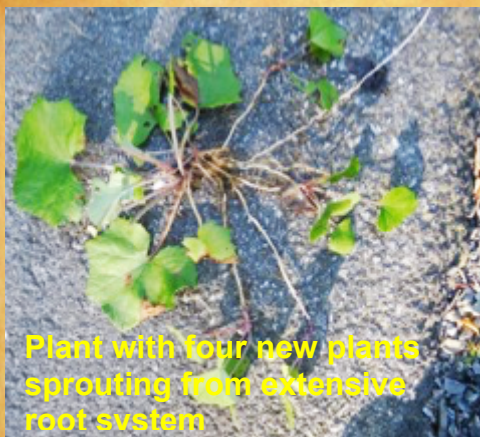
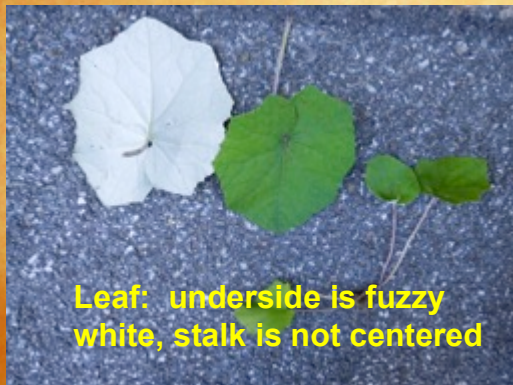


Piseco's **LEAST WANTED!**



Jan Samanek



Colt's Foot

Colt's Foot (*Tussilago farfara* - herbaceous perennial)

- Dandelion-like yellow disk-shaped flowers bloom early in spring, before leaves emerge. Each flower disk is composed of up to 50 ray-shaped flowers that will form seeds
- Seeds are air-borne, and will travel
- Leaves can be from 1-5" wide, basal, emerging from root nodule. The leaf shape is nearly circular, often with bold scalloped edges. Underside is fuzzy white. The stalk of the leaf is attached at end of V-shape on leaf base
- Seeds are viable for less than one year, but any root fragments left in the ground will form new plants, even years after plants were removed
- Found along roadsides, often in disturbed areas; prefers moist soil, wetlands and stream banks and lake shores
- Spreads quickly; shallow root system divides to creates many large colonies
- Will smother native plants, reducing food for pollinators
- Make sure the plant is not introduced with any construction job with imported fill. Be sure contractor cleans equipment prior to work
- Considered invasive in Connecticut, Massachusetts and Maine

Control:

- For small colonies, dig with fork or cultivator; try to avoid breaking the roots, carefully tease out the connecting roots and plants. This will reduce the population by about 60%.
- Collect plant material in trash bags / properly dispose the bags
- Burn Out only kills the leaves, not the roots, so problem will be repeated the following year
- Prevent early flowers from blooming, by cutting flowering stalks to ground
- Smother colony with tarp / black plastic / cardboard in the fall and remove in following summer, - this is very effective, but it kills everything under the tarp
- If the plant is more than 100' from a waterbody or wetland and on your land, herbicide treatment with 3% glyphosate sprayed on leaves in very **late** summer or fall has been successful; best after a frost that shuts down other plants. Protect native plants from spray with cardboard or several layers of newspaper
- No matter the control measures used, monitor control efforts in the following years, and remove any remaining plants

Additional information and photos:

<https://gobotany.nativeplanttrust.org/species/tussilago/farfara/>

<https://www.invasiveplantatlas.org/subject.html?sub=6564>

<https://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/plants/forb/tusfar/all.html>