



Weed of The Week

American Winter cress (*Barbarea orthoceras*)

This week's weed of the week features a showy Perennial and sometimes referred as have a Biannual growth habit. Winter cress or often called Yellow Rocket is often found growing in pastures, hayfields, and minimum till crop acres. This weed is in the mustard family and is also related to Broccoli. Reproduction of this plant is mainly from seeds that germinate easily on the surface of the soil. Flowering will take place from early April to late May, producing a small yellow flower formed into small clusters. American Winter cress can reach heights of 3 ft tall, but most plants are 1.5-2 ft in height and is not toxic to livestock but can give forage a bitter taste if populations is high enough. American Winter cress is best controlled in the fall with an application of 2-4-D + Roundup but other products like GrazonNext HL, Pasture guard, Dicamba and others work well in pasture and hay fields, as always read the label for grazing restrictions. Tillage can reduce populations. Hand removal works well in gardens and landscape settings.

