A n introduced plant from Asia, this member of the pea family is a potential threat to alfalfa seed production. The seed from Austrian peaweed is the same size, shape, and weight as alfalfa seed and the two are impossible to mechanically separate. An attractive plant with orange-red flowers, it typically grows along roadsides and fence rows. It is a perennial with a creeping growth habit that spreads by both seed and root. Austrian peaweed, also called Swainsonpea, is listed as a noxious weed by Nevada Administrative Code.

**Distinguishing features:**

- Dark green stems have creeping growth habit.
- Compound leaves have oval-shaped leaflets covered with hair.
- Flowers are orange-red and appear near the ends of the creeping stems.

**Take action:**

- Report its location to the land owner, gardener, manager or park ranger.
- Remove all weed seeds from your clothing, shoes, pets, camping gear, vehicle, and tire treads before moving out of an infested area.
- Equipment may require stream cleaning before moving to new areas.
- Monitor alfalfa plantings, adjacent irrigation ditches, roadsides, and bare areas. Carefully remove any seeds and dig up the plant. Dispose of the seeds, shoots, and roots, all of which can grow a new plant, in a sealed garbage bag through the trash. Herbicides may also be available to kill this plant.

**Your reward:**

A cleaner, healthier environment and the satisfaction that you have helped make the difference!

**For more information about controlling this and other invasive weeds, contact:**

Nevada Cooperative Extension
775-784-1334;
Nevada Division of Agriculture
Bureau of Plant Industry,
775-688-1180; or
Your local Weed District manager or Conservation District: