Identification and Impacts

Category C—Low

Spreading wallflower (*Erysimum repandum*)

Photo credit: S. Smith, U of A

Photo credit: P. Alexander

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Key ID Tips

- Linear to lanceolate leaves with wavy to widely toothed margins.
- Yellow small flowers in clusters at the end of the stems.
- Thin silique or seed pods.
- Many stems and branching.

Photo credit: M. Licher

Navajo Name
Bist'á azéé tsoh

Origin
Native to Eurasia

Description
Spreading wallflower is a annual winter forb with erect stems that can sometimes form a low shrub, usually between 1 to 2 feet tall as they have multiple branches. Their leaves are linear to lanceolate with wavy or widely spaced toothed margins. Flowers grow in clusters at the end of the stems and have small yellow to light green flowers. They develop long thin siliques, or seed pods. Individual plants have a thick, deep taproot.

Biology
Spreading wallflower prefers disturbed sites, such as rangelands, roadsides, and waste species. They flower from March to July. Wallflower thrives in fertile, moist soils and full sun, but can tolerate some shade. Plants reproduce by seed only, but can resprout from the taproots. Like most mustard species, seeds can remain viable for years.

Locations
Populations have been detected in Canyon de Chelly.

Ecological Threat and Management Concerns
Spreading wallflower can affect rangelands and disturbed sites, making it difficult for native plants to establish or maintain adequate cover. They can also be problematic in agricultural settings, such as in wheat crops where they can contaminate harvests and reduce yields. Some varieties are also resistant to various herbicides. They can be prolific seeders and can spread quickly in disturbed sites.

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Management Recommendations		Additional safety measures and limitations may apply for each method. Refer to the Navajo Nation Integrated Weed Management Plan for more information. Mechanical/Manual Removal Hand pulling and digging can be effective on small populations, but should remove as much of the taproot as possible to reduce resprouting. Cutting and mowing can be used to reduce growth and spread if done when plants are young and before flowering. Tilling can be effective but only on seedlings and when conditions are dry and warm. Otherwise, tilling can increase germination. Deep tillage is recommended to bury the seeds, though repeat treatments could stimulate germination of previously buried seeds. Biological No biological control organisms are available. Cultural Control Burning and targeted grazing are not recommended or effective as it can cause resprouting and promote germination. Maintaining healthy native plant cover or using cover crops can reduce or prevent establishment. Chemical Use of herbicides can be effective. Refer to the product labels for information application rates, timing, and approved application methods. Recommended herbicides include: • 2,4-D • Thifensulfuron methyl References Lyon, D.J., I.C. Burke, and J.M. Campbell. 2018. Integrated management of mustard species in wheat production systems. Pacific Northwest Extension Publication PNW703. 9 pp. Southwestern Environmental Information Network (SEINET) Arizona-New Mexico Chapter Portal. Available at: https://swbiodiversity.org/seinet/index.php. USDA, NRCS. 2023. PLANTS Database. Available at https://plants.sc.egov.usda.gov/. National Plant Data Team, Greensboro, NC 27401-4901 USA.

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