

[Back to weed management](#)

Common St. Johnswort

Hypericum perforatum L.

Life cycle: Multistemmed, shrublike perennial.

Leaves: Opposite, narrow oval to oblong leaves have round to pointed tips and entire margins, and attach directly to the stem. Leaves are covered with small, transparent dots when viewed against the light.

Stems: Erect with numerous branches and up to 3 feet tall. Herbaceous stems are often reddish in color and become woody at the base with maturity.

Flowers and fruit: Bright yellow to orange-yellow flowers with five petals are approximately 0.75 inch wide, often with several black dots along the petal margins. Fruit are capsules with three cells containing numerous dark brown to black, cylinder-shaped seeds.

Reproduction: Seeds and short runners.



Young common St. Johnswort plant.



Black dots along the petal margin of common St. Johnswort.



Common St. Johnswort flowers.



Transparent dots on common St. Johnswort leaf.