



Canada Thistle: Canada thistle grows in most soil conditions except saturated soils. It prefers an open site with full sun. It is found in open disturbed areas such as roadsides, ditch banks and pastures. It will also invade barrens, glades, savannahs, meadows and dunes. Canada thistle's rapid growth aggressively competes with native plants and crops for nutrients, moisture and light. The result is a loss of natural diversity. It is known to harbor other pest species, e.g., insects, and has long been recognized as an agriculture pest. Both natural and human-caused disturbances can create the opportunity for Canada thistle to become established in natural communities. This aggressive weed is difficult to control; for example, breaking up the roots by plowing only serves to increase the number of plants.