

Poison Hemlock
Conium maculatum



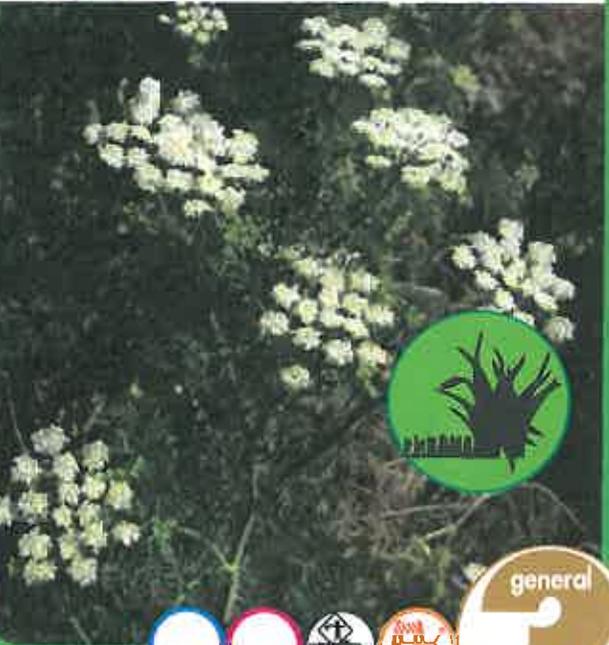
05-0310-11



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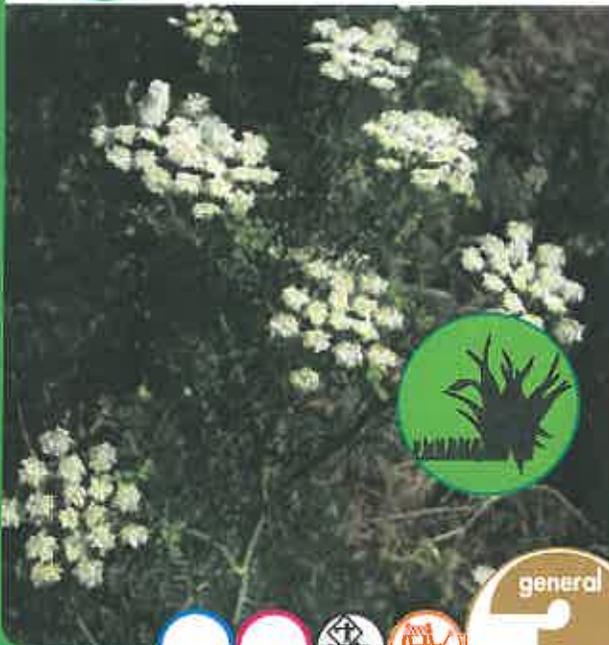
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Poison Hemlock

(Conium maculatum)

The Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA) encourages, but does not require, landowners to stop the continued spread of this invasive plant. The Colorado Department of Transportation controls these weeds on its right-of-way.

Poison hemlock is an herbaceous biennial plant which grows 5 to 8 feet tall. It has a smooth green stem, usually spotted or streaked with red or purple on the lower half of the stem. The leaves are finely divided and lacy, generally triangular in shape, up to 20 inches long and 16 inches wide. The flowers are small, white, and clustered.

Ingesting this highly poisonous plant can be lethal to humans and animals. Hemlock was used to execute the Greek philosopher Socrates in 399 BC. Multiple mowings close to the ground may eventually kill this plant. Check with the CDA and local weed control authorities for herbicide recommendations.

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