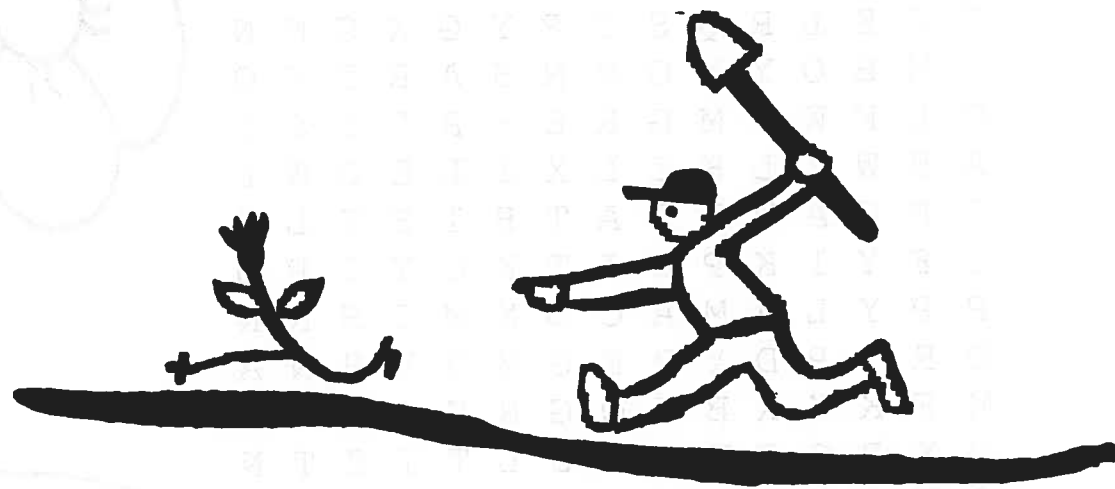


# WE'VE BEEN INVADED!

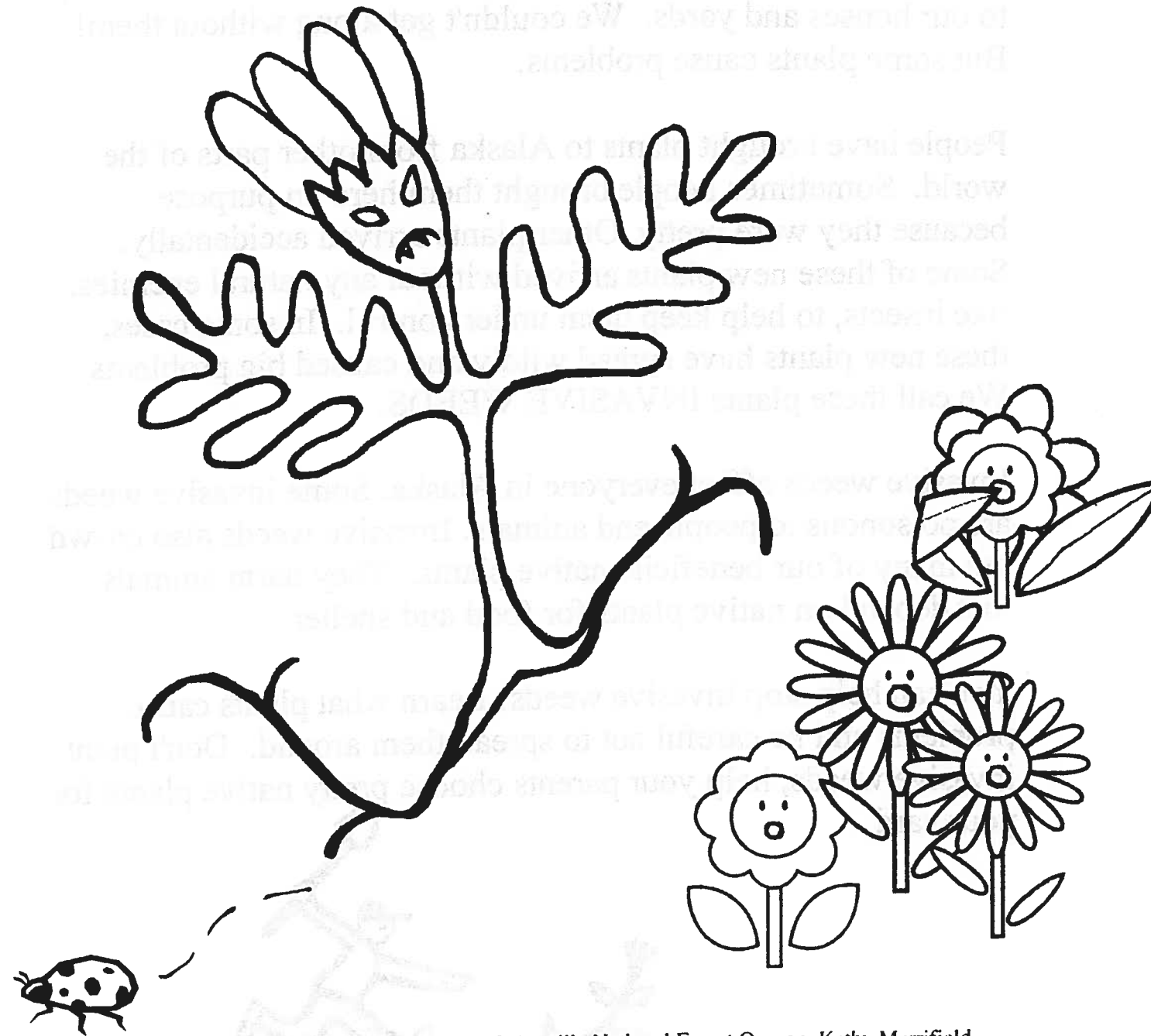


COOPERATIVE  
**EXTENSION**  
SERVICE

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

For more information on invasive plants  
contact the Cooperative Extension  
Service's Juneau office at 907-465-8749

NOT ALL ALIEN  
INVADERS ARE FROM  
OUTER SPACE!



Illustrations by Karl Urban of Umatilla National Forest Oregon, Kathy Merrifield  
and Laurel Baldwin of Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board, United States Department of  
Agriculture employees, and Sarah Moore of the Cooperative Extension Service Juneau

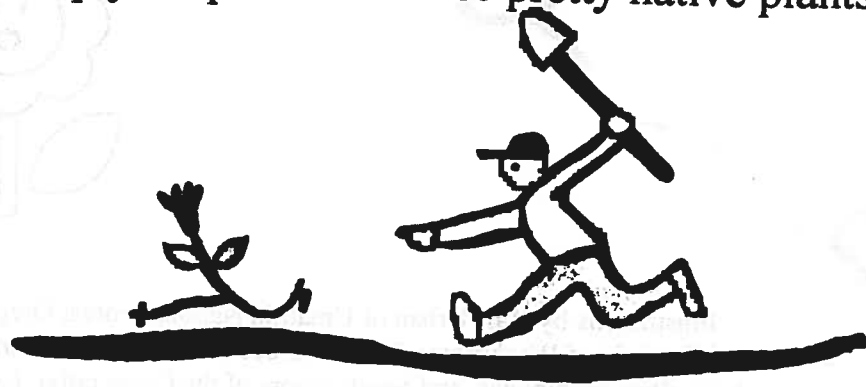
# STOP THE INVASION!

Plants are an essential part of our lives. They make the oxygen we breathe and the food we eat. They also add color and beauty to our houses and yards. We couldn't get along without them! But some plants cause problems.

People have brought plants to Alaska from other parts of the world. Sometimes people brought them here on purpose because they were pretty. Other plants arrived accidentally. Some of these new plants arrived without any natural enemies, like insects, to help keep them under control. In some cases, these new plants have spread wildly and caused big problems. We call these plants **INVASIVE WEEDS**.

Invasive weeds affect everyone in Alaska. Some invasive weeds are poisonous to people and animals. Invasive weeds also crowd out many of our beneficial native plants. They harm animals that depend on native plants for food and shelter.

You can help stop invasive weeds! Learn what plants cause problems and be careful not to spread them around. Don't plant invasive weeds; help your parents choose pretty native plants for your yard.



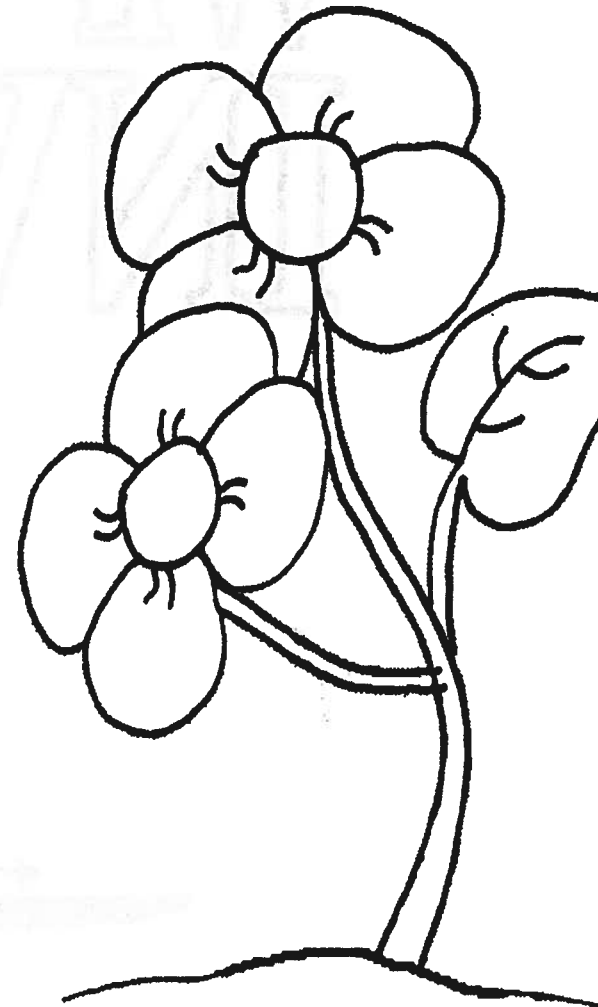
# INVASIVE PLANT WORD FIND

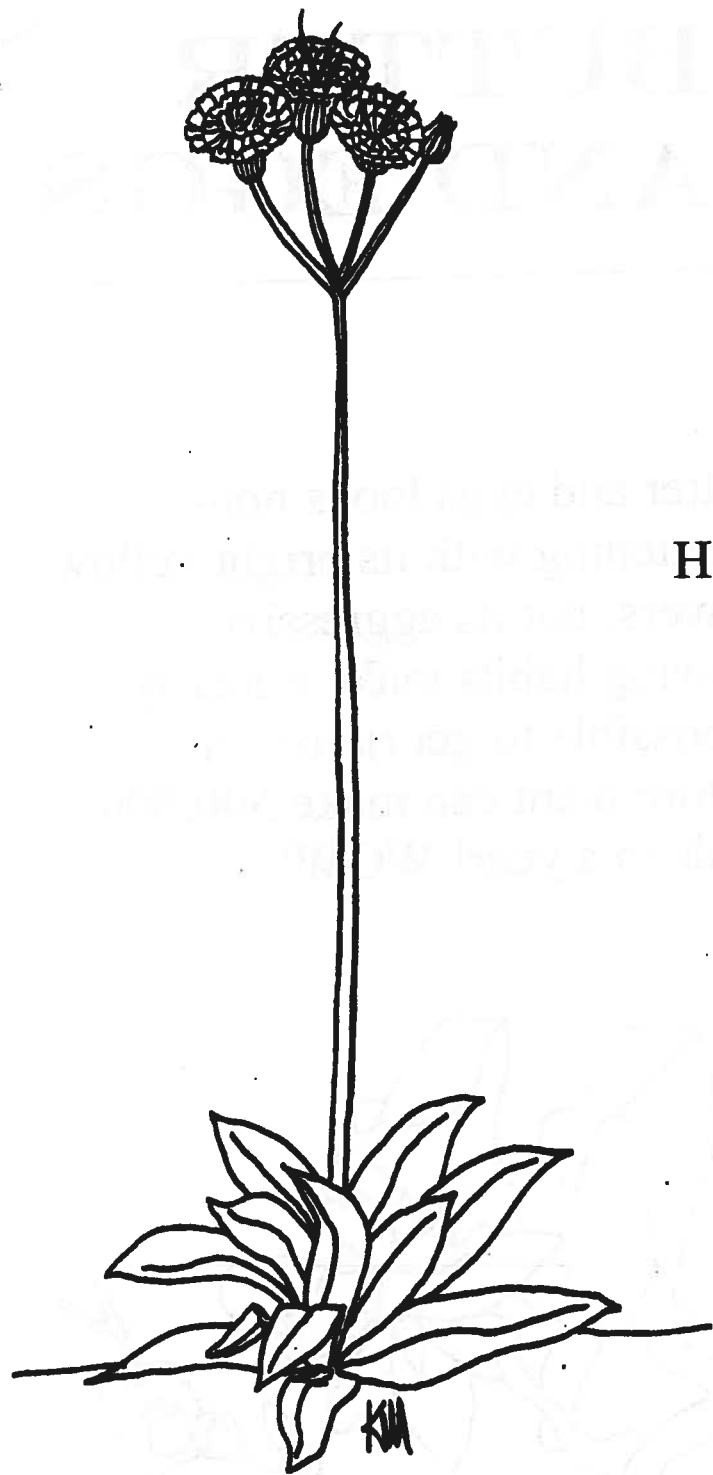
There are 8 invasive plants hiding in the puzzle, can you find them all? They're hidden forwards and backwards, horizontally, vertically and diagonally.

## Words hidden in the puzzle:

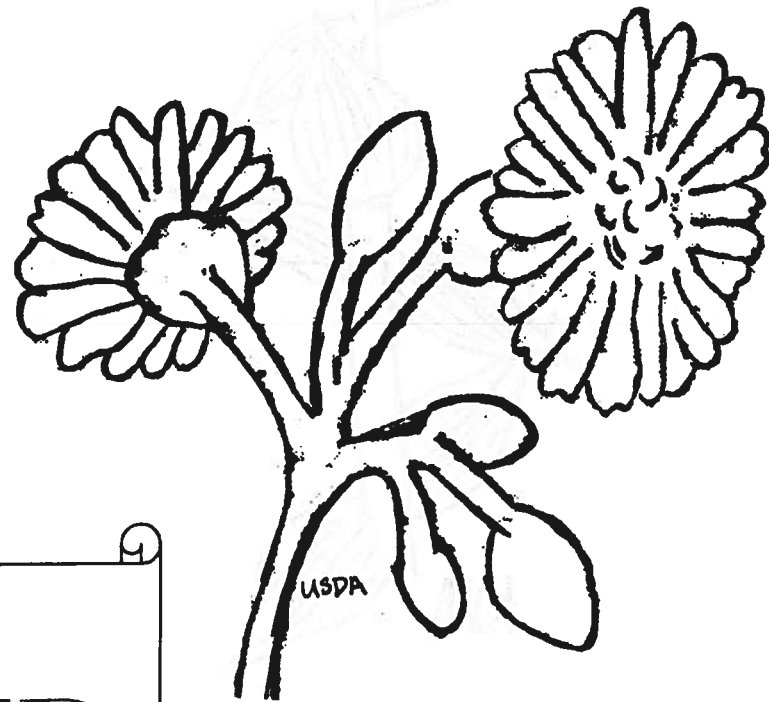
- Butter and eggs
- Canada thistle
- Dandelion
- Garlic mustard
- Hawkweed
- Jewelweed
- Knotweed
- Oxeye daisy

C F E L R Q S T P Y G X C M N  
X M B O Y Y G M N S A R D X O  
O L K W W M G R E Y R L I S I  
A H W Z L K E L X I L E D W L  
E P C A N A D A T H I S T L E  
I F Y I K P N I T K C Y I P D  
P P Y L J M A C D X M I S K N  
D R T P D Y R E G M U V H N A  
M F K K R B E O G R S G T O D  
Q X P Q C W T K Z L T I Z T N  
C W G J L S T P N K A I T W F  
E W Z E K F U F U R R O V E C  
F N W K H C B R T E D X C E B  
M E N Y S I A D E Y E X O D B  
J J M H A W K W E E D D N E W



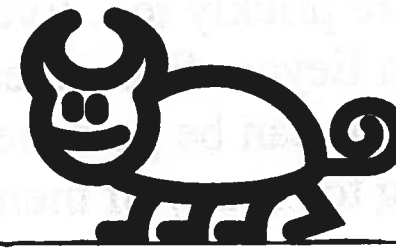
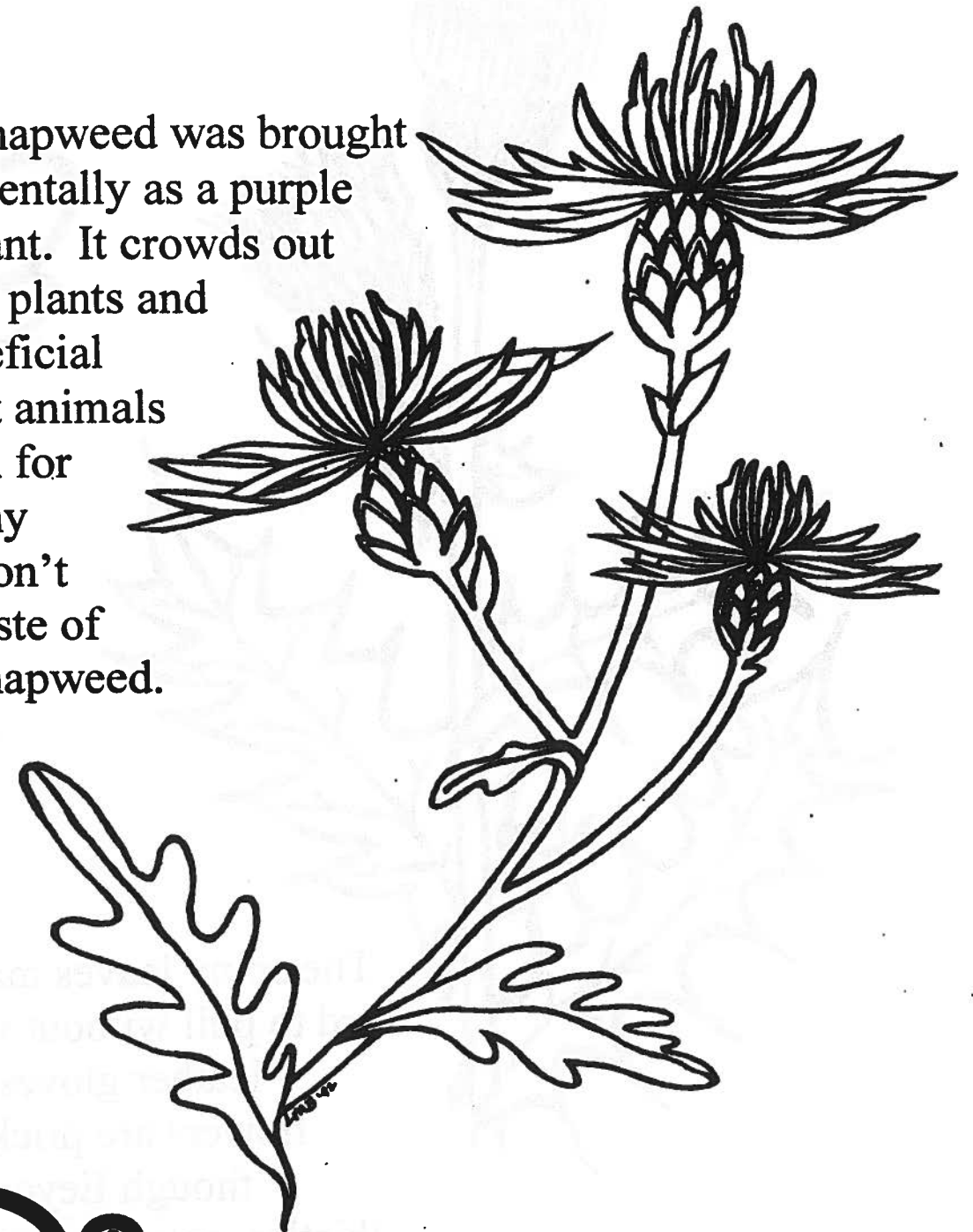


Orange hawkweed is spread around by people who think its orange flowers are pretty. However, this European native is a big problem in wetlands. It crowds out native plants and leaves nothing but orange hawkweed.



**ORANGE  
HAWKWEED**

Spotted knapweed was brought here accidentally as a purple garden plant. It crowds out our native plants and other beneficial plants that animals depend on for food. Many animals don't like the taste of spotted knapweed.

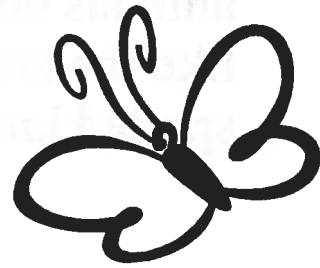
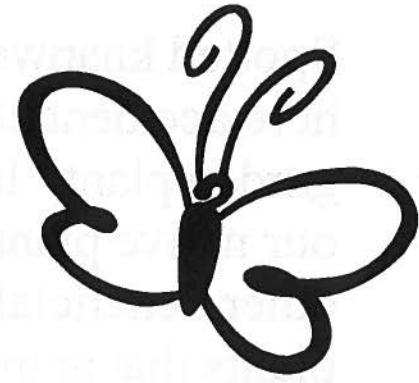


**SPOTTED  
KNAPWEED**



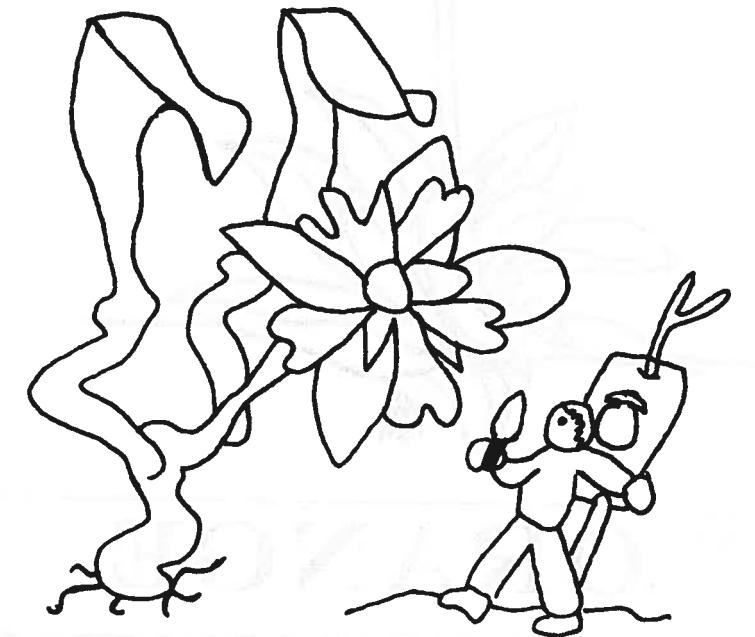
The spiny leaves make this plant hard to pull without wearing thick leather gloves. The purple flowers are prickly too. Even though Eeyore likes to eat thistles, animals can be poisoned from eating too many of them.

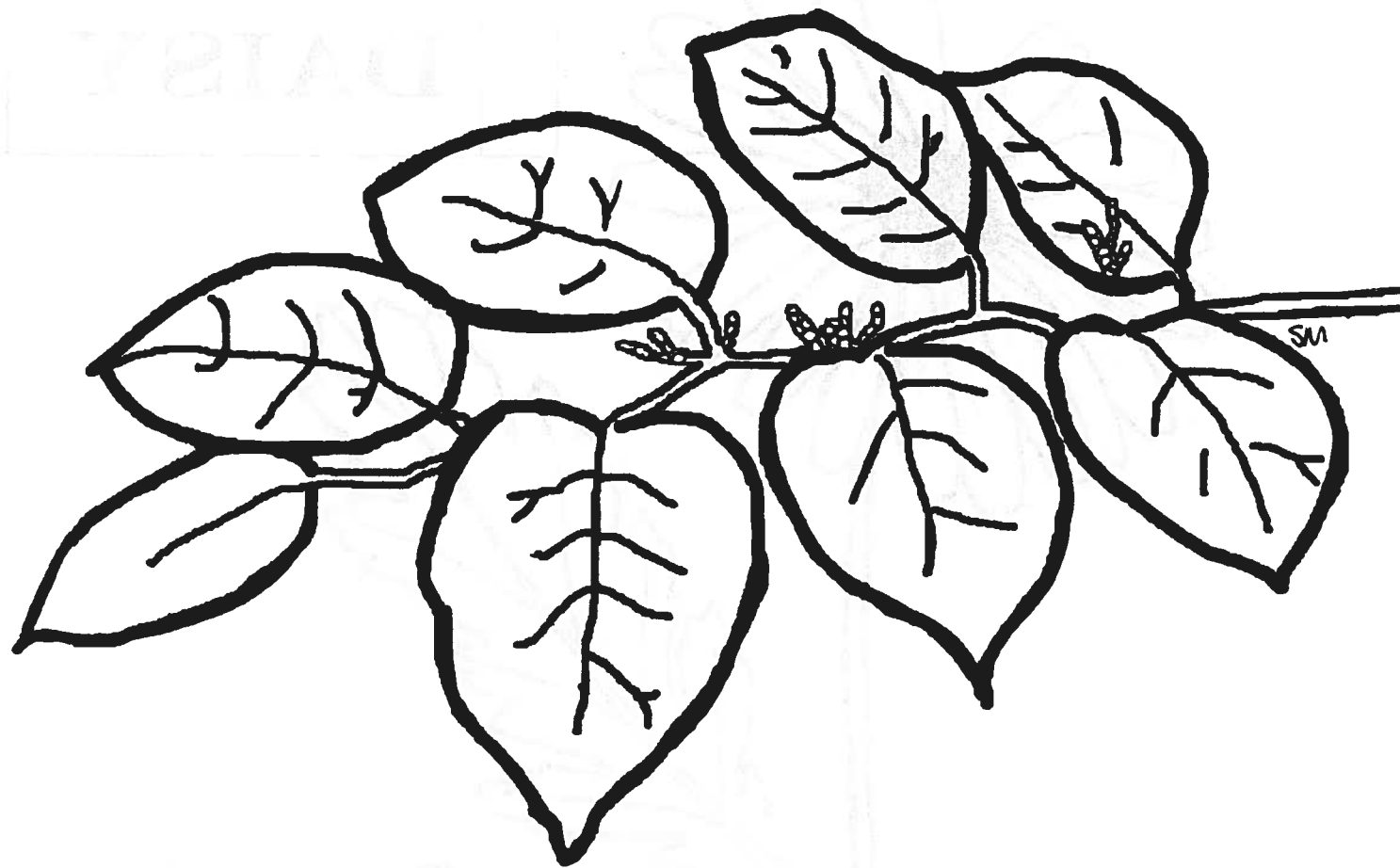
## CANADA THISTLE



## BUTTER AND EGGS

Butter and eggs looks non-threatening with its bright yellow flowers, but its aggressive growing habits make it nearly impossible to get rid of. A mature plant can make 500,000 seeds in a year! WOW!

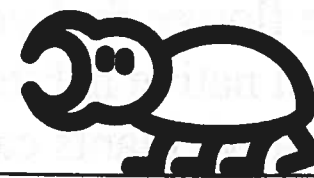
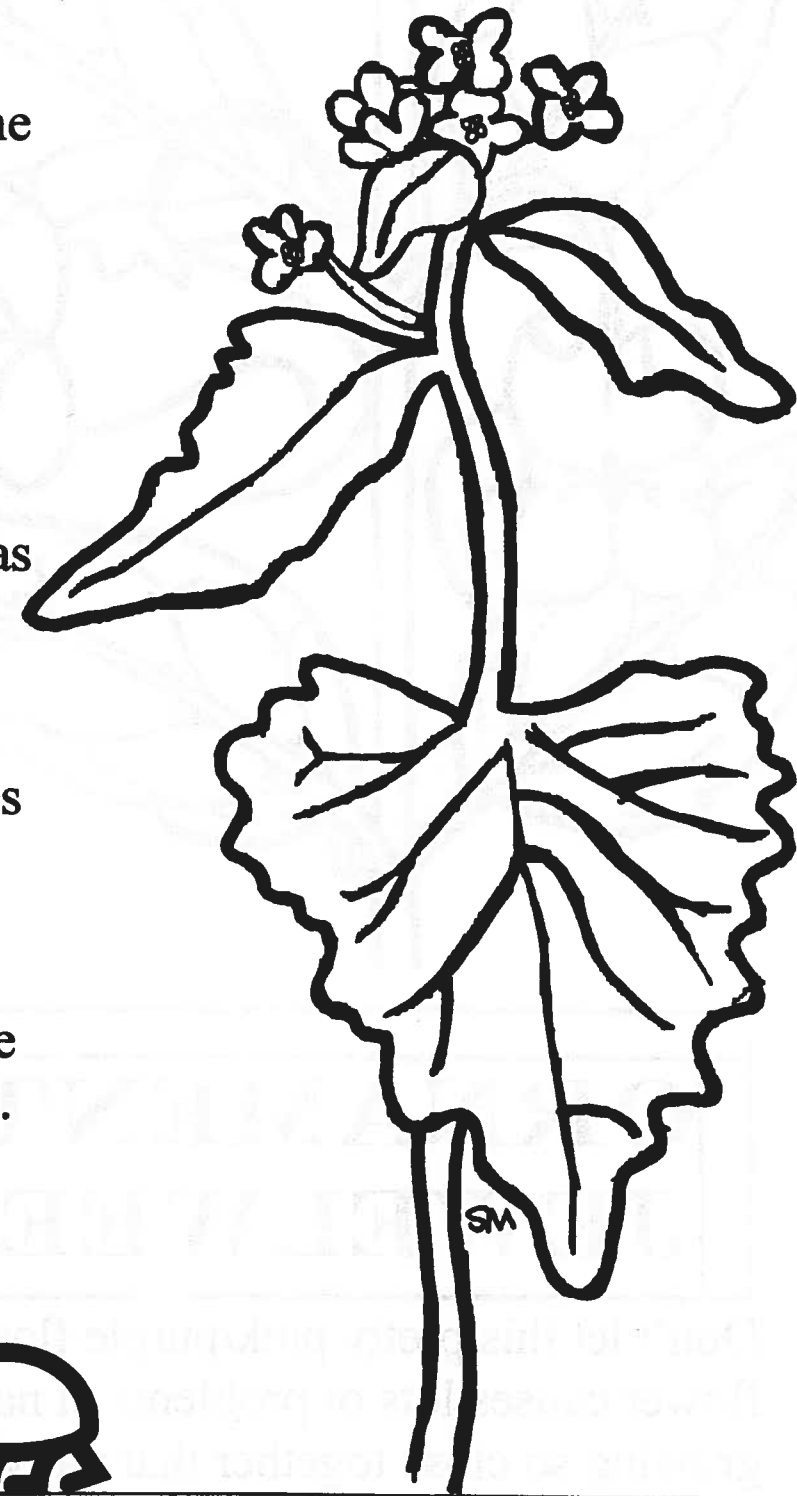




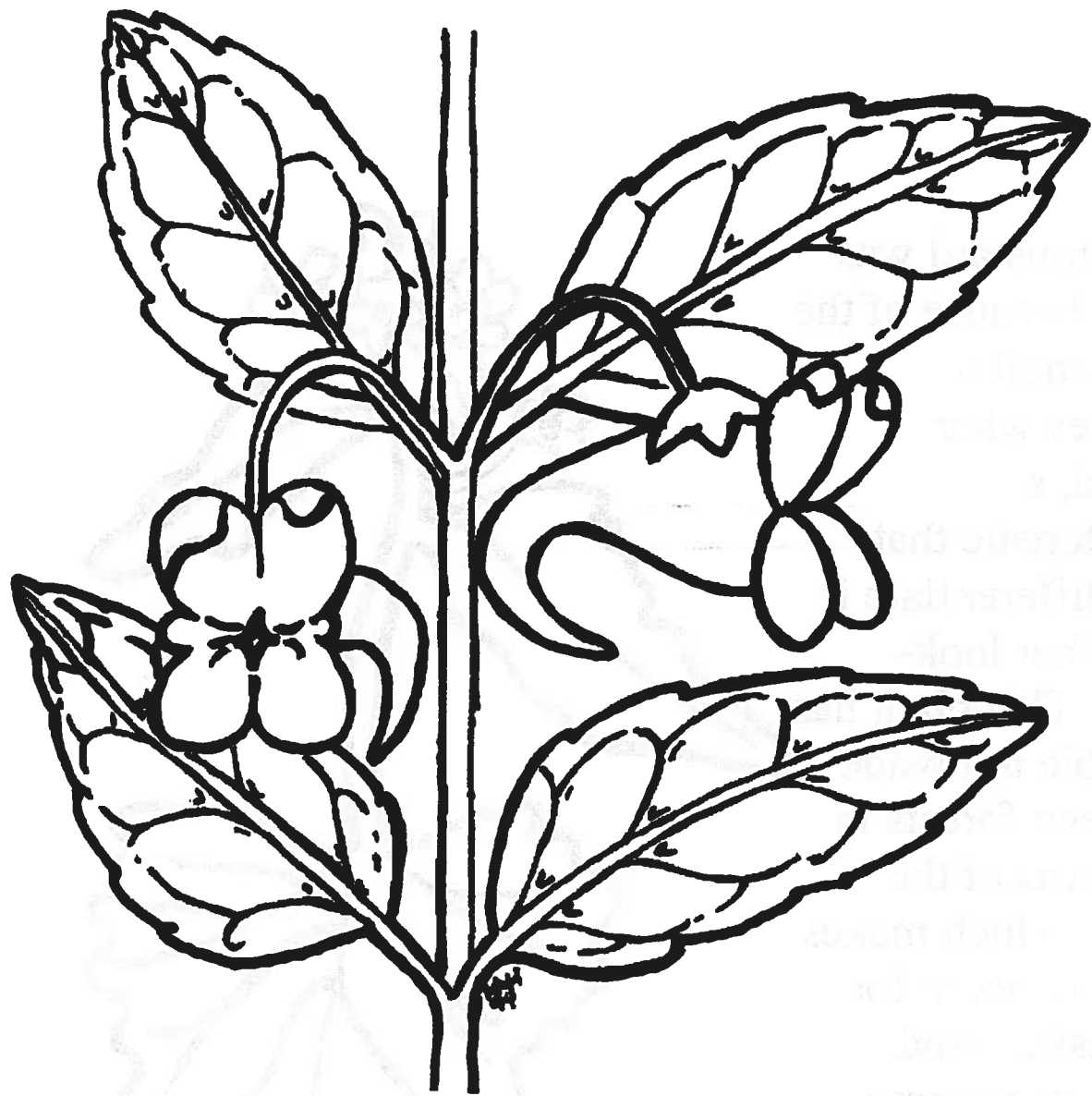
## JAPANESE KNOTWEED

This large bamboo-like plant has a habit of taking over riverbanks and roadsides throughout Southeast Alaska. The plant is able to re-grow from as little as 1/40 of an ounce of root, so its really important not to move soil contaminated with knotweed to another location.

Garlic mustard was named because of the garlic smell it produces when crushed, a characteristic that helps differentiate it from other look-alikes. This plant has been able to invade evergreen forests in other parts of the country which makes it a big concern for SE Alaska. And, despite its yummy name, deer don't like to eat garlic mustard.



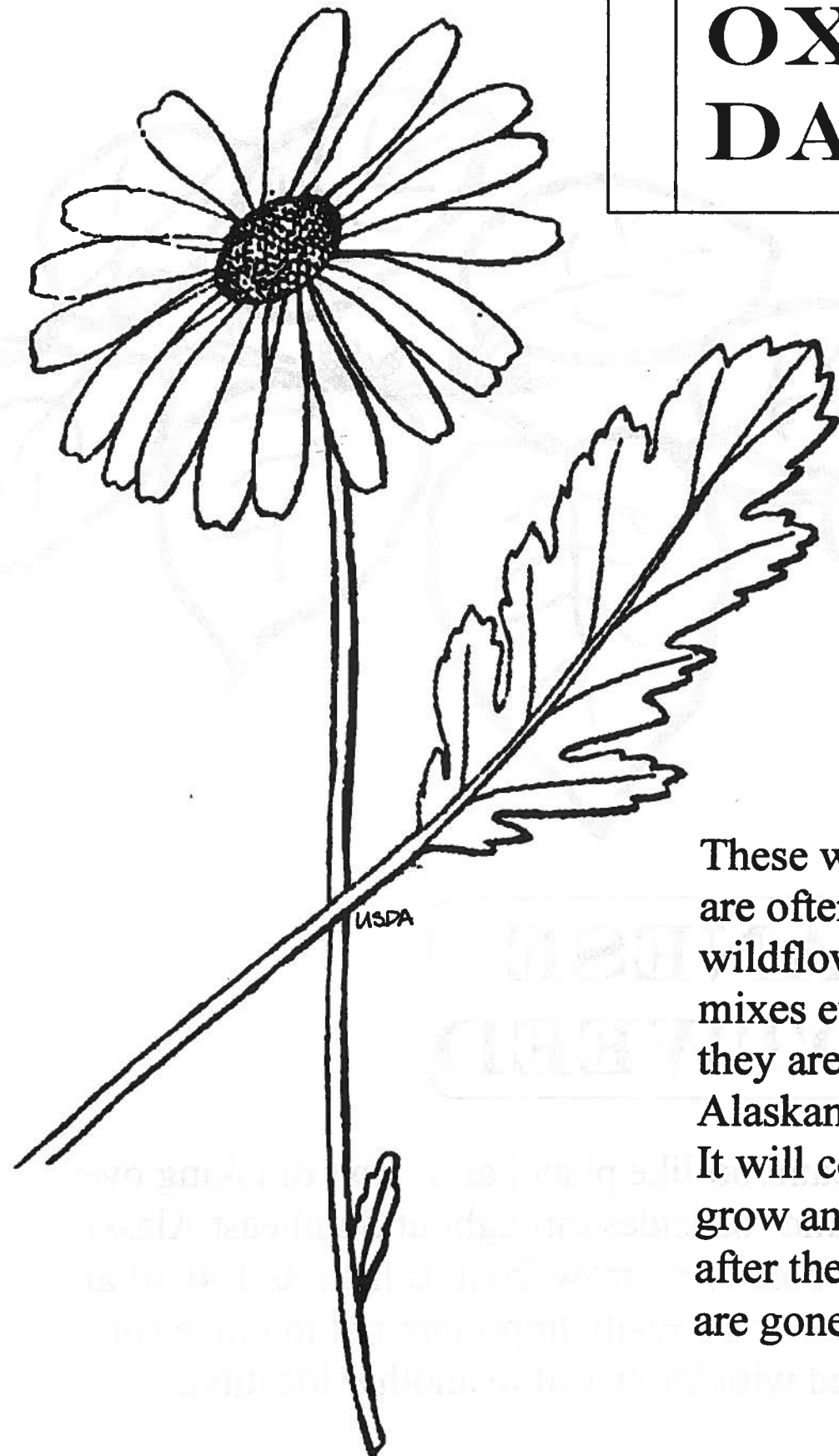
## GARLIC MUSTARD



## ORNAMENTAL JEWELWEED



Don't let this pretty pink/purple flower fool you. This flower causes lots of problems in native habitats by growing so close together that native plants can't grow there anymore. The flowers shoot their seeds up to 20ft from the plant allowing it to spread quickly.



## OXEYE DAISY

These white daisies are often included in wildflower seed mixes even though they are not a native Alaskan wildflower. It will continue to grow and spread long after the other flowers are gone.