

July 20, 2016

Mr. Brian J. Oakey, Deputy Director
Idaho State Department of Agriculture
PO Box 790
Boise, ID. 83701

Dear Mr. Oakey,

The Idaho Weed Control Association (IWCA) is an organization that promotes responsible weed management stewardship through Education, Communication, and Public Policy. IWCA is comprised of Federal and State Agencies, Counties, Cities, Private Landowners and Businesses with an interest in controlling and limiting the spread of noxious and invasive weeds in Idaho.

IWCA would like to extend our support to the proposal to add four (4) genera of plants to the Idaho noxious weed list including *Cystisus*, *Genista*, *Spartium*, and *Chamaecytisus*, including hybrids and cultivars of these genera.

These genera all contain species that are potentially invasive, including hybrids, and all are likely to grow within the state. None of these genera are native to Idaho, and their seeds can remain viable in the soil from 60 to 80 years, depending on conditions.

Prevention is the best and most cost effective form of weed control available. If you don't have it, you are not spending money to control it. These additions to the Idaho noxious weed list will help prevent the infestation of Idaho lands by the broom species.

Best Regards,

Alan Martinson
IWCA President

CC: Lloyd Knight, ISDA Plant Industries
Art Talsma, IWCC Chairman
Bryce Fowler, IAWCS Chairman