

## Meet the Aliens!

From the end of June through July we see many of the most colourful and plentiful flowers along the roadsides. Most of the very prolific are not native to Canada. In plant identification books they are terms Aliens. But they didn't come from outer space - they would have come to this continent along with the Settlers. Some may have been deliberately planted for their medicinal or food properties; others for their attractiveness in gardens. Others may just have jumped shipped as weeds among the seeds of crops and vegetables. Attractive though they are, many non-native species are quite invasive, crowding out the indigenous plants. You have to wonder what the Sioux Lookout roadsides would have looked like before the invasion of the aliens.



Orange Hawkweed, aka. Devil's Paintbrush (*Hieracium aurantiacum*), and the very similar yellow King Devil (*Hieracium pretense*). The "Devil" in the name is indicative of how devilish they are invading gardens and roadsides, and equally devilish to get rid of.



Garden Lupins  
Top left  
Purple Vetch  
(*Vicia Americana*)  
Top right

Birdfoot Trefoil  
(*Lotus corniculatus*)  
Bottom left



Ox-Eye Daisy (white)  
(*Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*)  
Buttercup (yellow)  
(*Ranunculus acris*)  
Yarrow (white)  
(*Achillea millifolium*)  
Bottom right

Not endangered – pick all you like – just don't spread them down the Cedar Bay Trail!