

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service

The Natural Resources Conservation Service supports involvement in implementing Montana's Weed Management Plan. You can help ecosystems remain healthy and minimize the threat of invasive weeds by practicing good land stewardship principles. Contact your nearest Weed or Conservation District Office to learn what you can do to improve the quality of lands you manage or visit.

Noxious Weed Treatment Quick Reference

This is a general table provided as a quick reference only. Treatments behave differently in different ecosystems. What works in some areas of Montana may not work in others. These treatments may also affect native and desirable plants.

effective
 moderately effective
 ineffective
 effective in combination with other treatments

Integrated Weed Management (IWM) is defined as utilizing all of the appropriate management methods to contain, suppress, and/or eradicate weed infestations. Using one method alone is never as effective as combining or integrating a variety of methods that can hinder more than one aspect of a weed's biology. Healthy plant populations compete with, replace, and resist future invasions of target weeds. In the absence of competitive plant populations, weeds re-establish regardless of the control method used. Consult your county weed coordinator or noxious weed specialist to assist in developing a management and safety plan that helps you to achieve the desired results on lands you manage.

SPECIES BY CATEGORY		INTEGRATED WEED MANAGEMENT CONTROL METHODS							burn
		cut mow	hand pull (wear gloves)	herbicide	biological control	reseeding	domestic animal	cultivate	
CATEGORY 1	Canada thistle	moderately effective	OUCH!	moderately effective	affects mostly seed production	effective on follow-up	goats reduce seed production	effective in combination with herbicide	Fire can be used as a method of thinning decadent plant material to enhance other treatment types such as herbicide. In some instances fire alone will give weeds an added advantage over native plants. More research is needed to determine if fire itself is a viable weed control practice. Fire should only be used in coordination with local officials to address safety issues and other consequences should a prescribed burn escape.
	field bindweed	ineffective	only on small patches	will contain infestations	limited availability	effective in combination with others	may stop seed production	effective in combination with others	
	hoary cress whitetop	may reduce seed production	effective in small and new sites	will contain infestations	currently unavailable	effective in combination with herbicide	unknown	ineffective	
	leafy spurge	ineffective, increases density	ineffective	will contain infestations	effective on some sites over the long term	effective as follow-up	effective long-term containment	ineffective and may cause spread	
	Russian knapweed	effective pre-herbicide	only very small patches	effective	ineffective	effective as follow-up	sheep/goats reduce seed production	ineffective and may cause spread	
	spotted knapweed	ineffective	very effective in small patches and new sites	effective	effective on some sites over the long term	effective as follow-up	sheep/goats reduce seed production	ineffective	
	diffuse knapweed	reduces seed, will not control plants	very effective in small patches and new sites	effective	effective on some sites over the long term	effective as follow-up	sheep/goats reduce seed production	effective	
	dalmatian toadflax	ineffective	only very small patches	will contain infestations	limited availability	limited effectiveness	unknown	ineffective	
	St. Johnswort	ineffective	only very small patches	moderately effective	cyclical, effective on some sites	limited effectiveness	poisonous	ineffective	
	sulfur cinquefoil	ineffective	only very small patches	effective	not available	effective as follow-up	ineffective	ineffective	
	common tansy	effective pre-herbicide	effective in small patches and new sites	moderately effective	not available	effective as follow-up	poisonous	ineffective	
ox-eye daisy	reduces seed, will not control plants	only very small patches	moderately effective	not available	moderately effective	sheep/goats reduce seed production	moderately effective		
houndstongue	reduces seed, will not control plants	very effective in small patches and new sites	effective	currently unavailable	moderately effective	poisonous to cattle/horses - goats reduce seed production	effective		
yellow toadflax	ineffective	only very small patches	will contain infestations	limited availability	limited effectiveness	unknown	ineffective		
CATEGORY 2	dyer's woad	ineffective	only very small patches	will contain infestations	not available	effective as follow-up	ineffective	effective	
	purple loosestrife	reduces seed, will not control plants	only very small patches	effective	limited availability	effective as follow-up	ineffective	ineffective and may cause spread	
	tansy ragwort	ineffective	effective in small patches and new sites	effective	limited availability	effective as follow-up	poisonous	ineffective	
	meadow hawkweed	ineffective	only very small patches	effective	not available	effective as follow-up	ineffective	ineffective and may cause spread	
	orange hawkweed	ineffective	only very small patches	effective	not available	effective as follow-up	ineffective	ineffective and may cause spread	
	tall buttercup	ineffective	only very small patches	moderately effective	not available	ineffective	unknown, slightly poisonous	ineffective	
CATEGORY 3	saltcedar (tamarisk)	only in combination with herbicide	only very small patches	moderately effective	limited availability	moderately effective	ineffective	ineffective	
	perennial pepperweed	may enhance herbicide activity	ineffective	will contain infestations	currently unavailable	effective as follow-up	sheep/goats reduce seed production	ineffective and may cause spread	
	yellow starthistle	Contact your local Weed District and/or Extension office to confirm the identity and location of Category 3 weeds. These contacts will also help you develop specific prevention and management criteria that address the unique challenges posed by these weed species and the areas they invade.							
	common crupina								
	rush skeletonweed								
yellowflag iris									
eurasian watermilfoil									

PHOTO CREDITS: MSU Extension Service, Mike Haddock, Carla Hoopes - SNWA&EC, Kenny Kaefer - BLM, Monica Pokorny, USDA-ARS, FDACS, Susan Lamont, AGF Canada