



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

NE-WQL01 2012 Ranking Period 1

Water Quality Enhancement Activity – WQL01 – Biological suppression and other non-chemical techniques to manage brush, herbaceous weeds and invasive species

State Criteria (same as NATIONAL CRITERIA)

Additional State Criteria and Clarification:

1. One of the most commonly used biological brush control measures is grazing. The effectiveness is dependent upon the species of brush, herbaceous vegetation present, age of the brush, species of animal, and management objectives of the landowner. Generally, sheep and goats are most effective at stressing or reducing the presence of woody brush. Care must be taken to ensure that the grazing animals do not increase the erosion risk from the site or negatively impact water resources. Refer to the [Brush Management Design Procedures \(314DP\)](#) or [Range and Pasture Tech Note #18](#) “Procedures Using Targeted Grazing for Invasive Plant Management” for additional information.
2. Use of chemicals is prohibited with this enhancement.
3. Use and introduction of beneficial insects and micro-organisms to target undesirable vegetation must be in accordance with University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Extension guidelines and techniques, as well as USDA, Animal and Plant Protection Service-Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) guidelines and regulations, and Nebraska Department of Agriculture guidelines and regulations.
 - i. The producer must obtain the required Permit 526 from the USDA, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service-Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) before biocontrol organisms are transported or shipped interstate:
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/permits/organism/index.shtml
 - ii. For UNL-Extension guidelines please contact Dr. Robert Wright, Extension Entomologist in Lincoln, at (402) 472-2128 or email rwright2@unl.edu
 - iii. For Nebraska Department of Agriculture guidelines and regulations please contact Mitch Coffin, at the Noxious Weed Program in Lincoln, at (402) 471-2394 or email mitch.coffin@nebraska.gov

Documentation Requirements (SEE NATIONAL ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY JOBSHEET)

Additional State Documentation Required:

1. Complete the following table documenting the pastures where the practice was applied.
2. Complete a [Brush Management Plan \(NE-CPA-19\)](#) or [\(NE-CPA-314\)](#) that indicates the brush species to be controlled, the existing brush canopy or density and extent, method of control, and, if applicable, the number, kind and size of the grazing/browsing animals to be used in the treatment.
3. If targeted grazing is used complete the [Prescribed Grazing Jobsheet \(NE-ECS-528\)](#) showing the timing, sequence, and duration of brush management in the pasture(s) treated.
4. Provide a map showing the location of treated areas.
5. Provide a photograph of the treated areas showing the treatment applied.



Complete the Table below:

To be completed by NRCS and Producer during planning					To be completed by Producer during certification	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Tract	Pasture	Acres Planned	Brush Species to be Controlled	Description of Control Method	Acres Treated	Dates Applied

I certify that biological suppression technique to manage brush in the pasture(s) listed above meets specifications and have included the following documentation:

1. A full description of all biological and/or physical suppression techniques utilized.
2. A completed [Brush Management Plan \(NE-CPA-19\)](#) or [\(NE-CPA-314\)](#).
3. A completed Prescribed [Grazing Jobsheet \(NE-ECS-528\)](#) if applicable.
4. A map showing the location of the acres treated.
5. A photograph of the treated areas.

I understand that it is my responsibility to obtain all necessary permits and to comply with all laws, regulations and ordinances pertaining to the application of these activities.

Certified by: _____ **Date:** _____



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Additional References:

For additional information on biological suppression techniques refer to the following documents.

There are a series of UNL Extension publications which cover Nebraska noxious weeds, and discuss biological control options for each.

EC171 [Noxious Weeds of Nebraska: Canada Thistle](http://www.ianrpubs.unl.edu/sendIt/ec171.pdf) <http://www.ianrpubs.unl.edu/sendIt/ec171.pdf>

EC172 [Noxious Weeds of Nebraska: Plumeless Thistle](http://www.ianrpubs.unl.edu/sendIt/ec172.pdf) <http://www.ianrpubs.unl.edu/sendIt/ec172.pdf>

EC164 [Noxious Weeds of Nebraska: Saltcedar](http://www.ianrpubs.unl.edu/sendIt/ec164.pdf) [tp://www.ianrpubs.unl.edu/sendIt/ec164.pdf](http://www.ianrpubs.unl.edu/sendIt/ec164.pdf)

EC173 [Noxious Weeds of Nebraska: Spotted and Diffuse Knapweed](http://www.ianrpubs.unl.edu/sendIt/ec173.pdf) <http://www.ianrpubs.unl.edu/sendIt/ec173.pdf>

EC166 [Noxious Weeds of Nebraska: Common Reed \(Phragmites\)](http://www.ianrpubs.unl.edu/sendIt/ec166.pdf) <http://www.ianrpubs.unl.edu/sendIt/ec166.pdf>

EC174 [Noxious Weeds of Nebraska: Leafy Spurge](http://www.ianrpubs.unl.edu/sendIt/ec174.pdf) <http://www.ianrpubs.unl.edu/sendIt/ec174.pdf>

Below is a section from the noxious weeds rules and regulations. Biological control can be acceptable but must be approved by the local county weed control authority

002.02D Biological methods. To be deemed acceptable, the use of livestock, predators, pathogens, and parasites as a method of controlling noxious weeds shall be as effective as the use of herbicides, as set forth in 002.02C and shall be approved by the control authority.

Additional Contacts:

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