

HERBACEOUS WEED CONTROL FOR GRASSLAND IMPROVEMENT

PRACTICE INFORMATION

Herbaceous weed control is designed to achieve the desired plant community through the utilization of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) principles. Herbaceous weed control is the eradication, reduction, or manipulation of herbaceous weed species including invasive, noxious, and prohibited plants. Control is accomplished by mechanical, chemical, targeted grazing or a combination of these techniques. Ongoing post-treatment measures (O&M) as needed to achieve the management objective such as grazing management/haying strategies, scouting, herbicide spot treatments, and ongoing weed monitoring to determine the success and further treatment needs. For further information, refer to the Herbaceous Weed Control 315 practice standard in the Field Office Technical Guide.

Herbaceous weed control is applied to accomplish one or more of the following:

- Restore native or create desired plant communities
- Manage invasive herbaceous plants (i.e. Phragmites, Purple Loosestrife, Reed Canarygrass)
- Enhance quantity, and quality of forage
- Maintain or enhance wildlife habitat including habitat for threatened and endangered species

COMMON ASSOCIATED PRACTICES

Herbaceous Weed Control is commonly used in conjunction with Grass Seeding Practices, Tree/Shrub Planting Practices, Wetland restoration/creation/enhancement practices, and riparian herbaceous cover. Ongoing management practices such as Prescribed Grazing (528), Prescribed burning (338), Forage Harvest Management (511), Wetland and Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (644/645) are also commonly used to maintain adequate control of herbaceous weeds as well.

HERBICIDE APPLICATIONS

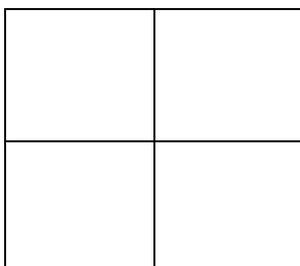
- Refer to the current "Guide for Weed Management" in Nebraska (<http://www.ianrpubs.unl.edu/> from the Publications home page search for: "Guide for Weed Management"), and read and follow label directions and maintain appropriate Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS). MSDS and herbicide labels may be accessed on the Internet at: <http://www.greenbook.net/>
- Calibrate application equipment before each seasonal use and with each herbicide and site change.
- Replace worn nozzle tips, cracked hoses, and faulty gauges on spray equipment.
- Maintain records in accordance with Nebraska Department of Agriculture and EPA requirements.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE (O&M)

Operation. Success is determined by monitoring regrowth or reoccurrence of target weed species in future years. Herbaceous weeds species shall be monitored annually at the beginning, and end of the growing season annually to determine the extent, population changes, and proximity weeds that can spread (from seeds, plant materials and roots). Herbaceous weed control shall be applied using approved materials and procedures, and will comply with all local, state, and federal laws and ordinances.

Maintenance. Following initial treatments some regrowth, resprouting, or reoccurrence of herbaceous weeds may be expected. Spot treatment of individual plants or areas needing re-treatment should be completed as needed when weed vegetation is most vulnerable to desired treatment procedures. Targeting and time grazing or haying to manage or further reduce weed escapes in future years as necessary. When using herbicides, to control weeds/invasive plants, rotate herbicide families to avoid development of weed resistance. Refer to USDA-NE-NRCS, (2010), Range and Pasture Technical Note 20 – Quick Guide to Invasive Plant Treatment. [Online]. Available at http://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/references/public/NE/Range_and_Pasture_Technical_Note_20.pdf (30 August 2010)

Sketch of Weed Control Area ↑N.



Insert a aerial photo, map, drawing, and/or narrative of the treatment area and list detailed areas to be treated, pattern of treatment (if applicable), and areas to be left undisturbed.

PLAN FOR HERBACEOUS WEED CONTROL

Name: _____ Program: _____ Date: _____
 Farm No.: _____ Tract No.: _____ Field No.(s): _____

<i>Target Plant Species</i>	<i>¹Treatment Method/Sequence</i>	<i>²Treatment Description</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Timing / Date</i>	<i>Acres Planned</i>	<i>Dates Planned</i>	<i>Acres Applied</i>	<i>Dates Applied</i>

Additional Instructions: _____

¹Treatment Method/Sequence Includes specific treatment methods, sequences of measures such as the following:

- Prescribed burning (must have an approved prescribed burn plan and burn permit form local fire district, refer to Prescribed Burning Standard 338)
- Mechanical (mowing, disking, cutting etc. preferred treatment will be shown in narrative)
- Herbicide treatments (refer to current "Guide for Weed Management in Nebraska" and product labels)
- Targeted grazing (haying may be substituted in some cases). If Goats are used grazing is concentrated in small areas generally 2 acres or less throughout the growing season as soon as re-growth occurs and generally will not graze in flooded or other areas with standing water, but is effective on plants growing on other areas.

²Specific herbicides rates and other details are found in the current "Guide for Weed Management in Nebraska", and product labels. NRCS does not endorse one product over another. All laws, rules and regulations related to herbicide use must be followed. Refer to USDA-NE-NRCS, (2010), Range and Pasture Technical Note 20 – Quick Guide to Invasive Plant Treatment. [Online]. Available at http://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/references/public/NE/Range_and_Pasture_Technical_Note_20.pdf (30 August 2010).

PRACTICE CERTIFICATION

I certify that I have completed the herbaceous weed control practices required according to the specifications listed above.

Producer: _____ Date: _____

This practice meets the above specifications.

Conservationist: _____ Date: _____