

Weed Management in Pasture and Forage Production

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Many Options to Manage Weeds

- Herbicides one tool to control weeds
- Others
 - Mowing
 - Biological controls (insect, plant disease)
 - Fertility program for the forage crop
 - Grazing and traffic management
- Competition from desired crop; Healthy target forage is a weed control tool

Mowing Can Help

Pros:

- Looks better
- May prevent seeding
- Won't wash off

Cons:

- Costs: fuel, equipment, time
- May need retreatment
- Little effect next growing season

Very Few Biological Control Options

Pros:

- Safer?
- May last longer
- More palatable to general public

Cons:

- Short shelf life
- Expense
- Slow action
- Often specific to just one weed species

A Look at some common
pasture herbicides by group.
Names are for examples only.
There are many trade names
of some of the chemicals

**Always carefully read and follow all
label information and instructions**

2,4-D – Many Trade Names

- First growth regulating herbicide
- Effective on many “soft weeds”
- Still the base for many mixes
- Be careful of drift



Dicamba – Banvel, Vanquish, Clarity

- Similar to 2,4-D
- Can combine to form Weedmaster, Kambamaster, Rangestar, Outlaw, 2,4-D Plus Dicamba
- Mixes more effective than 2,4-D or dicamba alone



Triclopyr – Remedy, Garlon, Element, Brush-B-Gone

- Big cousin to 2,4-D
- More effective on “woody plants”
- Good brush control
- Controls Tropical soda apple but no residual



Hexazinone – Velpar, Hexar, Velossa

- More soil activity than foliar
- Best for smutgrass
- Soil moisture critical
- DEADLY TO MANY HARDWOOD TREES, OAKS, ETC



Aminopyralid - Milestone Mix with 2,4-D - GrazonNext

- Best on tropical soda apple (TSA), thistles, etc
- Weak on some others
- Mix with 2,4-D = GrazonNext
- Soil residual activity



Triclopyr + Flouroxypyr - PastureGard

- Best option for large dogfennel
- Good on brushy weeds
- Effective tank mix
- Flouroxypyr mixed with 2,4-D is called Trumpcard



Metsulfuron - Chaparral, Cimarron MSM 60

- BERMUDA ONLY
- Hayfield clean up
- Late winter/early spring weeds
- Va. Pepperweed, Red sorrel, thistles, TSA



Glyphosate - Accord, Glyfos, Honcho, Roundup, etc

- Kills most green plants
- For weeds that can't be controlled with selective herbicides
- Target crop usually severely injured or killed



Value of weed control in reduced forage

Data from Sellers et al UF-IFAS Ona REC

Dogfennel	Bahiagrass yield (lb/Acre)
None	5000
Removed May	3000
Removed June	2700
Removed July	1800

Summary

- THE LABEL IS THE LAW !
- Healthy target forage
- Grazing management
- Proper plant nutrition
- Mowing
- Targeted, timely chemical and/or biological herbicide applications

Resources

- UF-IFAS Pasture Weed Control Guide- <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/wg006>
- UF Ona Research Center Weed ID - <http://rcrec-ona.ifas.ufl.edu/>
- County Extension Offices - <http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/map/index.shtml>
- UF-IFAS Weed Science - <http://weedext.ifas.ufl.edu/>