

Pasture and Forage Weed Control

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Fall can be a good time to control problem weeds in pastures and hayfields. However, during extremely dry weather or periods of slowed plant growth, effectiveness of herbicide applications may be reduced.

Summer annuals such as: horseweed, common ragweed, giant ragweed, lambs quarter, yellow foxtail and velvetleaf can be partially controlled through regular clipping or mowing. If herbicide applications are used, control is best when annuals are actively growing in the spring or fall. Problem biennials such as: bull thistle, musk thistle, burdock and poison hemlock will respond to herbicide treatments similar to annuals.

Perennials are best controlled when weeds are in the bud to bloom stage. Woody brush found along fence rows and in pastures is best controlled when actively growing and fully leafed. Specific information for tough to kill perennials can be found in Agronomy Fact sheet 306 and the Weed Control Guild, Bulletin 789.

Tables found in the Ohio Weed Control Guide lists the effectiveness of herbicides on individual weeds. More difficult information to find is information on restrictions to feeding, grazing, harvesting and reseeding. The following tables list current restrictions (at the time of writing- 9/2016) for herbicides commonly used in forage production and pasture production. **Several formulations using the same active ingredients exist, so be sure to check the label of any formulation you purchase for correct application rate, restrictions and personal protective equipment required for each chemical used!**

Table 1. Harvesting, Grazing, Feeding & Reseeding for Common Forage Herbicides

Herbicide	Restrictions	Length of Time	Remarks
Butyrac 200 (2,4-DB)	Grazing or feeding	30 days 60 days	Established alfalfa Seedling alfalfa
Buctril 4EC (bromoxynil)	Grazing or harvest	30 days 60 days	After spring application After fall application
Eptam 7E (EPTC)	Grazing or harvest	14 days	Soil incorporation is necessary. Do not use if companion crop of grain or forage grass is in seeding mixture
Balan DF (benefin)	Grazing or harvest	Not listed	Soil incorporation is necessary. Do not use if companion crop of grain or forage grass is in seeding mixture
Chateau SW (flumioxazin)	Grazing or harvest	25 days	Apply when alfalfa has 6" of growth or less

Chaparral (<i>aminopyralid + metsulfuron</i>)	Grazing Haying	No grazing restriction	Do not transfer livestock to sensitive broadleaf areas for 3 days after grazing Do not use manure on cropland or mulch with hay or straw from treated areas
Gramoxone (<i>paraquat</i>) <i>Restricted Use Product</i>	Grazing Hay harvest	Check labels 30-60 days label specific	Fall or spring dormant applications Between cutting (do not apply more than once during the growing season)
Kerb (<i>pronamide</i>)	Grazing or harvest	120 days	Fall or dormant application
Metribuzin (<i>metribuzin</i>)	Grazing or harvest	Varies by crop Check the label	Rate depends on soil texture and organic matter%. Rotation to another crop is limited
Poast/Poast Plus (<i>sethoxydim</i>)	Grazing, feed or harvest forage(undried) feed or harvest dry hay	7 days 14 days	
Pursuit (<i>imazethapyr</i>)	feed, graze or harvest	30 days	Spring & regrowth applications should be made before alfalfa or clover reaches 3" in height. If applied to seedling alfalfa or clover it may cause temporary reduction in growth.
Raptor (<i>imazamox</i>)	No preharvest interval for any alfalfa	none	Spring & regrowth applications should be made before alfalfa or clover reaches 3" in height. If applied to seedling alfalfa or clover it may cause temporary reduction in growth.
Select (<i>clethodim</i>)	feeding, grazing or harvest	15 days	
Sinbar (<i>terbacil</i>)	grazing or feeding	none	Do not replant treated areas to any crop within 2 years of application.
Roundup (<i>glyphosate</i>)	grazing or harvest (>2qts/A pre-plant) grazing (spot treatment)	56 days 7 -14days	Many formulations exist and label information must be followed
Velpar/Velossa (<i>hexazinone</i>)	grazing or harvest or feeding	30 days	Use in established alfalfa only plant only corn 12 months following application

Table 2. Harvesting, Grazing, Feeding & Reseeding for Common Grass and Pasture Herbicides

Herbicide	Restrictions	Length of Time	Remarks
2,4-D(amine)	lactating dairy Other livestock Hay harvest	7 days No restriction 7-30 days (label specific)	*Remove meat animals from treated areas 3 days before slaughter.
2,4-D(ester)	All animals	7 days 30 days	Between application & grazing Between application & haying
Cimarron Max (metsulfuron + dicamba + 2,4-D)	Lactating dairy Non-lactating livestock Hay harvest	7 days None 37 days	Refer to the label for new seedings Established timothy should be 6 inches Meat animals remove 30 days before slaughter.
Cimarron Plus (metsulfuron + chlorsulfuron)	Grazing or haying	No restriction	May cause yellowing and stunting in fescue. Use mixed solution within 24 hours to avoid product degradation.
Banvel (dicamba)	Lactating dairy (restrictions depends on rate) Other livestock	grazing restrictions 7 days <1 pt/A 21 days 1-2 pt/A 40 days 2-4 pt/A 60 days 4-16 pt/A No grazing restrictions	Haying 37 days if < 1 pt 51 days if 1-2 pt 70 days if 2-4 pt 90 days if 4-16 pt *There is no waiting period between application and grazing for non-lactating animals. Remove meat animals 3 days prior to slaughter.
Crossbow/Crossroad (triclopyr + 2,4-D)	Lactating dairy Other livestock Hay harvest	Do not graze until next season No grazing restriction 14 days	Do not graze or harvest till next season 14 day hay harvest restriction. *Remove meat animals from treated areas at least 3 days before slaughter.
Roundup Ultra (glyphosate)	All livestock All livestock	14 days - graze and harvest restriction >2qt/A Remove livestock prior to application & wait 8 weeks (56 days) before grazing or harvesting.	Spot treatment (no more than 1/10 of any acre treated) Pasture renovation or pre-plant
Spike (tebuthiuron)	All livestock	No restrictions for grazing (<20 lbs./A)	Do not cut hay for feed for 1 year after a spike 20P treatment. If use less than 20 pounds per acre of Spike 20P there is no restrictions on grazing. Refer to label for additional factors affecting herbicidal response.
Stinger (clopyralid)	All livestock	No restrictions on grazing	Do not mulch with hay or straw from treated areas.

	Hay harvest	No restriction on haying	Do not transfer animals from treated grazing areas without first allowing 7 days of grazing on untreated areas. Otherwise, urine may harm sensitive broadleaf crops.
Curtail (<i>clopyralid + 2,4-D</i>)	Lactating dairy	14 days	Established grasses are tolerant, new seedlings may be injured
	Other livestock	No grazing restriction	*Remove meat animals from freshly treated areas at least 7 days before slaughter
	Hay harvest	7 days	Do not transfer livestock to sensitive broadleaf areas for 7 days after grazing
Forefront (<i>aminopyralid + 2,4-D</i>)	All livestock	No grazing restriction	Do not transfer livestock to sensitive broadleaf areas for 3 days after grazing
	Hay for Sale	18 month hay selling restriction	Do not use manure on cropland or mulch with hay or straw from treated areas
	Hay harvest	7 days, but 14 day allows herbicide to work better	
Milestone (<i>aminopyralid</i>)	All livestock	No grazing restriction	Do not transfer livestock to sensitive broadleaf areas for 3 days after grazing
	Hay for sale	18 month hay selling restriction	Do not use manure on cropland or mulch with hay or straw from treated areas
	Hay harvest	No restriction, but 14 day wait allows herbicide to work	
PastureGard (<i>triclopyr + fluroxypr</i>)	Lactating dairy	Do not graze until next season	*Remove meat animals from treated areas at least 3 days before slaughter.
	Other livestock	No grazing restriction	
	Hay harvest	14 days	
Remedy Ultra (<i>triclopyr</i>)	Lactating dairy	Do not graze until next season	*Remove meat animals from treated areas at least 3 days before slaughter
	Other livestock	No grazing restriction	
	Hay harvest	14 days	
Weedmaster (<i>dicamba + 2,4-D</i>)	Lactating dairy	7 day grazing restriction	*Remove meat animals from treated area at least 30 days before slaughter
	Other livestock	No grazing restriction except slaughter animals	
	Hay and silage	7 day harvest restriction	
Grazon P+ D (<i>picloram + 2,4-D</i>) Restricted Use Product	Lactating dairy	7 day grazing restriction	Do not transfer livestock to sensitive broadleaf areas for 7 days after grazing
	Other livestock	No grazing restriction except slaughter animals	*Remove meat animals from treated areas at least 3 days before slaughter
	Hay	30 day harvest restriction	

<p>GrazonNext HL <i>(aminopyralid + 2,4-D)</i></p>	<p>All livestock Hay for Sale Hay harvest</p>	<p>No grazing restriction 18 month hay selling restriction 7 days, but 14 day wait allows herbicide to work better</p>	<p>Do not transfer livestock to sensitive broadleaf areas for 3 days after grazing Do not use manure on cropland or mulch with hay or straw from treated areas</p>
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