

Common Mullein

Invasive Species Management

(Verbascum thapsus)



Common mullein				
General	Family: Figwort (Scrophulariaceae) Introduced from Europe Colorado List C - Control recommended			
Common names	Wooly mullein			
Habitat	Biennial Found in rangeland, pastures, open areas, disturbed sites, roadsides			
PLANT				
Vegetation	Mature plants up to 8 feet tall Leaves oblong, blue-green, hairy, up to 5 inches wide and 12 inches long Leaves get smaller as they grow up the flower stalk			
Roots	Taproot and fibrous secondary roots			
Flower	June-Sept. Yellow About 1 inch wide Tightly grouped flowers at the end of a stalk up to 6 feet tall			
Seed	Up to 180,000 seeds per plant Seeds last up to 100 years in the soil			
Seedling	Rosette			
Reproduction	Seed			

CONTROL					
BIOLOGICAL	Seed weevil (Gymnetron tetrum) - has not been successful in Jefferson County				
CHEMICAL	Stage	Herbicide	Timing		
	Rosette to pre-bud	Aminopyralid (Milestone) Chlorsulfuron (Telar) Glyphosate (Roundup, Rodeo, many others) Picloram (Tordon <i>Restricted Use</i>)	Spring		
	Rosette	Aminopyralid (Milestone) Picloram (Tordon <i>Restricted Use</i>)	Fall		
	Actively growing	Glyphosate (Roundup, Rodeo, many others)	Spring - Fall		
CULTURAL	Prevention Revegetation of highly disturbed sites Removal - Remove rosettes prior to bolting. If flower and seed stalks are cut they should be bagged and disposed of				
MECHANICAL	Stage	Method	Timing		
Burning	Not recommended	Fire encourages Common mullein to germinate			
Grazing	Not recommended	Most animals will not feed on Common mullein			
Mowing	Not recommended	Plants will re-grow and set seed			

Use all chemicals according to the manufacturer's label. No specific recommendation or endorsement is made or implied by listing the above methods or products.

12/2017