

**KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**FRANKLIN COUNTY, KANSAS**

**OFFICIAL CONTROL METHODS FOR**

**Cut-Leaf Teasel**

Dipsacus laciniatus L.

**August 31, 2020**

**DESCRIPTION**

Cut-leaf Teasel is a biennial or short-lived perennial. It develops a large taproot in the rosette stage. The basal, or rosette, leaves are puckered with scalloped edges. The stem leaves are opposite and deeply lobed forming cups around the stem that often hold water. Cut-leaf teasel can grow up to 8 feet.

Each of the many flowers in the egg-shaped flower head blooms only for one day. The flower has white petals connected into a tube with four lobes. Four stiff, upwardly curving bracts are located underneath the flower head.

A single flower head can produce hairy achene seeds. The seeds are 0.12 to 0.30 inches (3-8mm) long. Their dispersal can be by floating on water, in mud, soil movement, human activities, or by birds and animals. Flowering from May to October.

**PREVENTION OF SPREAD OF COMMON TEASEL**

The Noxious Weed Law (K.S.A. 2-1314 et. seq.) requires all landowners to control the spread of and to eradicate cut-leaf teasel on all lands owned or supervised by them. Methods used for control must prevent the production of viable seed.

**COMMON TEASEL CONTROL PRACTICES**

Because cut-leaf teasel is a biennial or short-lived perennial, you may be able to use mechanical controls alone as a control option. Contact your county noxious weed director for more information.

**Cultural Control**

Cultural weed control involves land and vegetation management techniques used to prevent the establishment or control the spread of noxious weeds.

After the control of cut-leaf teasel infestations, it is recommended to plant or re-seed areas with competitive grasses, forbs or other desirable plant species. Frequent surveys of fence lines, roadways, ditches and other susceptible areas for new infestations and the quick removal of any new plants will prevent cut-leaf teasel from becoming established.

## **Mechanical Control**

Mechanical weed control involves the physical removal of all parts or just the reproductive parts of weeds.

Digging can be used to remove rosettes, however, it is important to remove as much of the taproot as possible to prevent resprouting. Plants should be cut just below ground level immediately before flowering to prevent re-sprouting, which may produce seeds. Large infestations can be mown to set back the growth stage of the plant, however, since immature seed heads can still produce viable seeds, mowing must occur before flowering. After flowering all heads must be bagged, removed from site and burned or disposed of safely.

## **Chemical Control**

The following herbicides may be used for cost-share with landowners. Other products labeled and registered for use on this noxious weed in Kansas may also be used in accordance with label directions but are not available for cost-share. Be sure to read and follow all label directions and precautions. For additional information consult the most recent edition of the KSU publication of "Chemical Weed Control for Field Crops, Pastures, Rangeland, and Noncropland".

Any two or more of the herbicides listed below may be available for cost-share as a pre-mix or a tank mix if allowed on the respective labels. Contact your county weed program for availability.

Herbicide	Mode of Action
Aminopyralid	4
Imazapic	2
Glyphosate	9
Triclopyr	4
2,4-D Amine	4

## **Biological Control**

Biological pest control refers to the deliberate application of a living organism to control the spread of weeds. These agents will not eradicate their host plant; other control methods must be used in addition to biological control agents. The importation of biological control agents is regulated by the USDA and is allowed by permit only. The following agents are permitted for use on cut-leaf teasel.

There are no biological control methods available for cut-leaf teasel at this time.