

Early Detection and Rapid Response

Because the cheapest weed to control is the first one, you should start working on controlling any problematic weeds when they first appear rather than after they start taking over areas of your land. If you do, you will have to spend much less time and money to accomplish your goals.

A Weed Management Plan

Consider developing a weed management plan for your land. A well thought-out strategy that takes a planned approach can make weed management tasks easier, more achievable and can result in significant savings of time, effort and money.

Integrated Weed Management is like using all of the tools in your toolbox



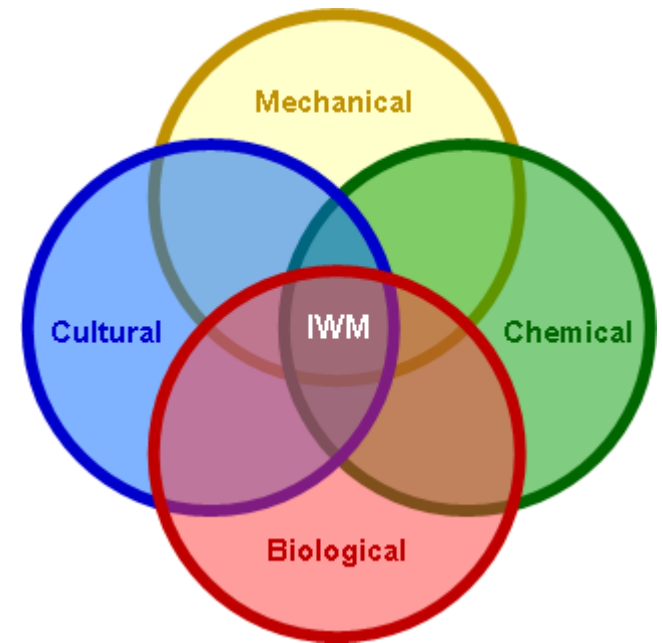
For more information on the state weed program, go to:

www.agriculture.ks.gov/noxious-weed



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Integrated Weed Management



Using an integrated approach to managing the noxious and invasive weeds on your land

Introduction

Integrated weed management is a process by which a landowner works to control the noxious and invasive weeds on their land. The basic tools in this particular control toolbox are Cultural, Biological, Chemical and Mechanical control techniques. Using these methods in combination with each other can result in more efficient and effective control of weeds.

Cultural Control

This method can also be thought of as preventative control as it involves taking those actions that are necessary to keep weeds from getting established at all. Some techniques you can use are intercropping, cover crops to provide competition, no-till farming and revegetation of disturbed sites to and make it harder for weeds to become established.

Biological Control

This involves the use of agents such as insects or pathogens to feed on established



weeds to help reduce their reproduction and spread. Not all weeds have biological control agents available but goats and other livestock feeding on the weeds counts as biological control as well. Keep in mind that biological controls will rarely kill a population of weeds, they will just help slow them down. If you are interested in using biological control insects, please contact your County Weed Director or the Kansas Department of Agriculture.



Chemical Control

While this is the most well-known of the control methods, it is not the preferred one for everyone or every situation. While, unlike some of the other methods, it will kill weeds by itself, it can still be used along with the other methods.



Each county Weed Program has cost-share herbicides available for landowners to use for the control of noxious weeds. Contact your county Weed Department for more information about which herbicides they have available and which will be most effective on the noxious weeds growing on your land. Remember to always read and follow the label instructions when applying pesticides because the label is the law.

Mechanical Control

These are the methods you probably remember from childhood. They involve actions such as pulling, mowing, burning or disking. While you can use this method on any problem weed, it will usually not be effective in killing perennial weeds that store nutrients and energy in their roots; they will simply grow back later in the season or the next year. Biennial and annual plants that don't grow from their roots can be killed outright using mechanical control techniques.

