KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICIAL

RUSSIAN KNAPWEED CONTROL PROGRAM
Revised November 1, 2006

DESCRIPTION

Introduced from Asia. Perennial, reproducing by roots, rhizomes and seeds. Plants up to about 3 feet in height, from a particularly well-developed branching root system. Stems branched at base, striate, covered with downy-white hairs. Leaves of new shoots alternate, broadly lanceolate, a little toothed, somewhat whitish underneath. Lower leaves of plant rough; leaves of the flowering stems similar but much shorter. Flowers numerous, all tubular, rose to purple or blue, in composite heads which are flask-shaped, about 1-2 cm. long, solitary on the ends of leafy branches. Seeds are an ivory to light brown color, 2-3 mm. long, flattened, ovate shaped, longitudinal ridges, basal scar not oblique, with capillary pappus. Flowers, June - August. Seeds, August - September.

PREVENTION OF SPREAD OF RUSSIAN KNAPWEED

New infestations of Russian Knapweed may be reduced by planting weed free seed, feeding materials free of Russian Knapweed seed and cleaning equipment before leaving infested fields. Close attention should be placed on any feed or seed materials imported from the northern and north western states. Quick identification and destruction of Russian Knapweed plants is essential to prevent its spread.

RUSSIAN KNAPWEED CONTROL

Control of Russian Knapweed shall mean preventing production of viable seed and destroying the plant’s ability to reproduce by vegetative means.

CULTURAL CONTROL PRACTICES

Cultural control methods have not been developed at this time.

HERBICIDES APPROVED FOR CONTROLLING RUSSIAN KNAPWEED

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 be used in accordance with label directions but are not available for cost-share.

Be sure to follow all label directions and precautions. For additional information consult the current KSU publication of “Chemical Weed Control for Field Crops, Pastures, Rangeland, and Noncropland”.

2,4-D Low Volatile Ester
Dicamba (Banvel, Clarity, Vanquish and others)
Picloram (Tordon)
Imazapic (Plateau)
Imazapic + Glyphosate (Journey)

BIOLOGICAL CONTROL PRACTICES

There are no biological controls approved for use on Russian Knapweed at this time.

K.A.R. 4-8-31
DESCRIPTION
Perennial, stems erect, to 5 ft. tall, appressed hairy only along the ridges on the stem, leaves with 3 leaflets, leaflets less than 1 in. long and less than 1/4 in. wide, wedge-shaped (cuneate), flowers few (1-4) in the axils of the leaves from mid or late July to October, petals yellowish or tinged with purple, about 1/4 in. long, fruit (pod) about 1/8 in. long, roundish with pointed ends in outline, flattened.

PREVENTION OF SPREAD OF SERICEA LESPEDEZA
Sericea lespedeza spreads primarily by seeds. The method of seed dispersal is probably by animals. Persons planting mixtures of seeds for erosion control and for wildlife habitat should ensure sericea lespedeza is not included in the mix.

SERICEA LESPEDEZA CONTROL PRACTICES
Control of sericea lespedeza shall mean preventing production of viable seed.

CULTURAL CONTROL PRACTICES
Rangeland - Prescribed burning at the proper time (late spring) followed by intensive-early stocking (double stock until July 15 and then remove cattle) may reduce the occurrence of sericea lespedeza. Mature cattle grazing early in the season are more apt to utilize sericea lespedeza.
Tame pastures - Proper fertilization and grazing during April and May may reduce the occurrence. Late grazing or no grazing will increase sericea lespedeza.
Grazing infested areas with sheep and goats will provide effective control of sericea lespedeza.
Mowing in the late bud stage for 2 to 3 consecutive years from mid-July to late summer should reduce the vigor of the stand.

HERBICIDES APPROVED FOR CONTROLLING SERICEA LESPEDEZA
The following herbicides maybe used for cost-share with landowners. Other products labeled and registered for use on this noxious weed in Kansas may be used in accordance with label directions but are not available for cost-share.
Be sure to follow all label directions and precautions. For additional information, consult the current Kansas State University publication of “Chemical Weed Control for Field Crops, Pastures, Rangeland, and Noncropland.”

Pasture and Rangeland -
Metsulfuron methyl (Escort XP, Ally, Cimarron)
Triclopyr (Remedy, Garlon)
Triclopyr + Fluroxypyr

BIOLOGICAL CONTROL PRACTICES
There are no biological controls approved for sericea lespedeza at this time.