

# 2022 Management Plan

For Hodgeman County

Brian L. Nuss, County Weed Director

Specify the goals and priorities of the program for the coming year.

Hodgeman County Noxious Weed Department will offer assistance to all private landowners and tenants in controlling noxious weeds. This will include local, state and federal government agencies enforcing the Noxious Weed Law and to educate farmers and ranchers on the importance of noxious weed control.

Specify the goals and priorities of the program for the next five years.

In the future, to replace some of our outdated spray equipment. Our main goal in the next five years is to find a way to provide the same high quality service to our landowners, tenants and county residents.

Describe the areas which noxious weed species are known to occur within the county and specific locations of new infestations and areas particularly susceptible to new infestations.

Field bindweed	See attached page under A.
Musk thistle	See attached page under B.
Sericea lespedeza	See attached page under C.
Johnsongrass	See attached page under D.
Bur ragweed	See attached page under E.
Canada thistle	See attached page under F.
Hoary cress	N/A
Leafy spurge	N/A
Quackgrass	N/A
Kudzu	N/A
Russian knapweed	N/A

- A. Field Bindweed is the most predominant noxious weed in the county and can be found in every section of the county to some degree. Every quarter section of the county could be susceptible to new infestations.
- B. Musk thistle can be found in CRP, range and pastures and waste areas in the county. Although it can be found county wide, the worst infestations are located in the Eastern ½ of the county.
- C. Sericea Lespedeza has only been located and identified on 2 properties within the county. These were 2 small infestations, in the NE part of Valley Township, were discovered in 2006 and have been mostly eradicated over time.
- D. Johnsongrass is scattered in very small acreages throughout the county, mostly in grain sorghum and other row crops.
- E. Bur Ragweed has low acreage infestations in Hodgeman County and is primarily found in the Southwest part of the county.
- F. Canada thistle is found in just a few locations in the county. I estimate total infestations to be less than 5 acres and located at the Horsethief Reservoir, and the Jetmore City Lake.

List any non-noxious invasive weed species you plan to control and the types of integrated weed control methods you plan on using on them.

As far as non-noxious weed control: From time to time we are asked to control kochia; which many in the county consider invasive, Russian thistle, puncture vine, grassy sand burrs, and other broad leafs and grasses on county owned property. We use a variety of herbicides for control, as well as pre emergent herbicides, We also use and apply pre emergents to the lawns of the noxious weed department and landfill, like simazine and pendulum. In the past we have used atrazine to control noxious weeds on county owned lands and right-of-ways. We do not sell chemical, or apply chemical to private landowners for non-noxious weeds.

List your planned integrated weed management goals and procedures, including but not limited to biological control agent selection and distribution, pesticide selection and application and cultural and mechanical controls.

Biological Controls

Natural enemies of noxious weeds exist in the county, such as the head weevil in musk thistle, which seems to be increasing over the years. These weevils are helpful in reducing overall seed productions.

Chemical Controls

A variety of pesticides are used for noxious weed control on private, county , city and state owned lands, such as Picloram for Bindweed as well as Amine and Ester 2,4-D's, glyphosate, metsulfuron, and dicamba. Glyphosate and plateau for Johnsongrass. Picloram, metsulfuron and 2,4-D's and

Cultural Controls

A lot of operators in the county use crop rotation and tillage to control noxious weeds.

Mechanical Controls

Mechanical control methods are primarily used by private land owners such as mowing musk thistle and cultivation. Bindweed cultivation is used by a few operators, but it is usually unsuccessful.

Estimate the projected personnel, operations, and equipment costs of the proposed program.

Personnel costs	\$95,700
Operations costs	\$295,000
Equipment costs	\$20, 000 (unless we purchase equipment and then it would be more)

List the methods you plan to use to encourage compliance and the enforcement actions you will take if necessary.

Contact landowners and tenants by phone or warning notice in the mail. Send legal notices for non-compliant landowners and follow recommendation of the Noxious Weed Law.

List your plans for working with state and/or federal agencies to control the noxious weeds on state and/or federal lands.

Hodgeman County Noxious Weed Dept. will assist all State and Federal offices like KDOT, FSA, NRCS, Kansas Wildlife and Parks with noxious weed control. The Hodgeman County noxious weed department is contracted to spray the 2 highways that run through the county. Highway 156 and 283 includes spraying from the edge of the highway to the end of the State right-of-way. The noxious weeds that are found on the State highways are Field Bindweed, Musk Thistle, Johnsongrass. The weeds will be treated with a combination of Picloram and 2,4-D, Glyphosate, Plateau and Escort XP.

Describe your education and outreach plans for the coming year. Include training and professional development for yourself and your staff. (Attend District meetings? Annual Conference? Recertification?)

The Director of the Hodgeman County Noxious Weed Department has over 27 years experience in Noxious weed control, over 19 years as a Director; has completed Basic training and has current commercial certification in categories 9A, 6, and 1C. The Director and a spray applicator will attend Annual conference and recertification, and will attend district meetings when time allows. We will continue to publish the General Notice to treat Noxious weeds in the local newspaper. The Hodgeman County Noxious Weed Director also is the current Vice President for the South Central Weed District for 2022.

List the facilities and equipment available for use in managing the noxious weeds in your county, including a list of the equipment available for rent to the public and the rent you charge.

The home of the Hodgeman County Noxious Weed Department is a 40x100 ft building consisting of a 3 bay heated shop which is shared by the Landfill, and has a chemical room with a loading dock.

Our equipment consists of

2014 GMC 4x4 3/4 ton pickup

2004 GMC 4x4 3/4 ton pickup and a 200 gallon spot sprayer

1992 one ton Chevy truck with a 500 gallon FMC spray unit

1998 Chevy one ton with 500 gallon spray unit

2000 4x4 1 ton Chevy with a 300 gallon John Bean Spray unit

2008 Yamaha Grizzly 700cc four-wheeler with spray unit

2013 Yamaha Grizzly 700cc ATV with spray unit,

1980 8,000 gallon tanker with transfer pump

1999 14 ft 4-wheeler trailer and 2006 18 ft car trailer.

Kawasaki 3010 mule with spray unit

Noxious Weed Department Employees

Name	Title	Years of service in the Nx Wd Dept.	# Jobs within the county
Brian Nuss	Director	27	5
Teresa Blackwell	Office Manager	17	2
Wyatt Nuss	Spray applicator	3	1

I certify that this is the official 2022 Management Plan of Hodgeman County

Brian Nuss, County Weed Director 2-28-22

Chris Hill, County Commissioner 2-28-2022  
Date

Emmett D. Pistone, County Commissioner 2/28/2022  
Date

Michael J. Merzari, County Commissioner 2/28/2022  
Date

Jay Hausman, County Commissioner 2/28/2022  
Date

MC, County Commissioner 2/28-22  
Date