

2022 Management Plan

For Butler County

Ryan Lee, County Weed Supervisor

- Specify the goals and priorities of the program for the coming year.
- Notify Landowners/tenants which oversee property of any noxious weed infestation found.
 - Contact these caretakers and advise them on methods of control chemical, cultural, or mechanical along with estimated cost of such control.
 - Oversee noxious weed control within the county rights-of-way and all other county owned property.
 - Coordinate with and advise township officials, KDOT officials on noxious weed control within their rights-of-way and estimated cost of such control
 - Utilize cost share on chemicals purchased from the weed department for noxious weed control.
 - Enforce legal action for non-compliance of the Noxious Weed Law.
 - Publish the General Notice in county newspaper along with the Shoppers Guide paper to better notify county residents of the noxious weed law.
 - Train all employees on noxious weed identification and proper treats available.
 - Use the most economical and environmentally friendly treatment procedures for all noxious weeds in Butler County.

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

- Will concentrate heavily on the Johnson Grass problem within the county
- Educate and streamline the process of noxious weed control.
- Enforce more landowners to control noxious weeds.
- Control teasel on State ROW before it spreads

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	County, state right-of-way, on township gravel roads and crop areas
Musk thistle	Frequently located around pond dams and open pasture
Sericea lespedeza	Township right-of-way, most is found east side of the county, found in pasture. New patches found on NE 180 th and Flinthills Rd
Johnsongrass	Scattered throughout the county, state highway, townships, and county ROW and pasture
Bur ragweed	N/A
Canada thistle	N/A
Hoary cress	N/A
Leafy spurge	N/A
Quackgrass	N/A
Kudzu	N/A
Russian knapweed	N/A

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.

- Spot spray poison hemlock- chemical control with 2,4-D & Dicamba mix (ex: Weedmaster)
- Spot spray common and cut-leaf teasel- chemical control with imazapic, 2,4-D, aminopyralid ect.
- Control honeysuckle with tryclopypyr (ex: Remedy of Element 4)

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

- Field Bindweed-gall mite not effective on its own
- Johnsongrass-N/A
- Musk Thistle-Musk Thistle head weevil not effective
- Sericea Lespedeza-N/A

Chemical Controls

- Field Bindweed- cost-share herbicide; ex: Tordon 22K & 2,4-D use boomless nozzles to spray ROW
- Johnsongrass- cost-share herbicide; Spot spray JG with handgun & use wick/wiper in pasture
- Musk Thistle- cost-share herbicide; 2,4-D, aminopyralid, spray rosette before plant bolts
- Sericea Lespedeza- cost-share herbicide; Triclopyr and metsulfuron-methyl before seed produce

Cultural Controls

- Field Bindweed-survey fencelines, roadway, ditches, and pasture
- Johnsongrass - survey fencelines, roadway, ditches, and pasture
- Musk Thistle-survey fencelines, roadway, ditches, and pasture
- Sericea Lespedeza-survey fencelines, roadway, and ditches. Fall burning may help landowners

Mechanical Controls

- Field Bindweed- difficult to control mechanically, not practical to cultivate, and can cause erosion issues
- Johnsongrass-N/A
- Musk Thistle- hand digging down to root crown, pulling mature musk thistle heads and burning them
- Sericea Lespedeza- mowing in the flower/bud stage, fall season burn

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

Personnel costs	\$213,860.00
Operations costs	\$16,450.00
Equipment costs	\$330,400.00

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

- Talk with landowners to establish control of noxious weeds on their land, whether it be in-person, phone call, or letter.
- Inform townships of their need to help control noxious weeds in the right-of-way.
- Cost-share chemicals to help with rising cost of herbicides.
- Assist landowners control noxious weeds; Butler County Weed department is available for hire.

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

- I am in regular contact with the local Wildlife and Parks official regarding the Butler County state fishing lake and the El Dorado Wildlife areas. There is an abundance of *Sericea Lespedeza* at the El Dorado Lake properties. I have informed management and we have helped treat in the past, as time allows. They also contract out prescribed burning the infested areas around the lake property.
- I am in contact with the KDOT manager in our area and I plan on advising him about the invasive weed called, "Common Teasel" or "Cut leaf Teasel", which has been an ongoing problem weed the last few years along KDOT right of way.

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?)

I attended basic weed school in Manhattan, KS, in 2013 I plan to attend again in the spring of 2023. I attend district meetings monthly to gain more knowledge of the noxious weed program and new invasive weeds to scout for. The majority of my staff have taken the 9A and 6 categories for their Applicator's License. My staff and I attend regular zoom meetings and/or conferences, meeting the requirement to maintain certification for our respective Applicator Licenses.

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.

Ford F450 Truck (750 gal.)
 Dodge 4500 Truck (750 gal.)
 International Truck (500 gal.)
 Kiser 2 ½ Ton Truck (900 gal.) *Tank w/ 55ft. mounted booms for wide right of way areas
 Kubota UTV (100 gal.)
 Kubota UTV (60 gal.)
 Honda ATV (40 gal.)

- All trucks have cab mounted flashing lights as well as front and rear mounted warning lights
- UTV has a cab mounted flashing light
- ATV has a pedestal mounted flashing light above the operator
- Ford F450, Dodge 4500, International, UTV and ATV all have boom less nozzles mounted on them as well as hand guns for areas that need to be sprayed that can't be reached with a boom
- Equipment rental is NOT available

Noxious Weed Department Employees

Name	Title	Years of service in the Nx Wd Dept.	# Jobs within the county
Ryan Lee	Noxious Weed Supervisor	8	1
Claire Lane	Administrative Assistant	1	1
Del Provo	Weed Sprayer II	3	1
Ted Dykstra	Weed Sprayer II	1	1
Makenzie Jackson	Weed Sprayer II	1	1
Bob Starkel	Summer Help	12	1

I certify that this is the official Weed Management Plan of Butler County

Michael Ryan Lee, County Weed Supervisor 3/22/2022
 Date

Kelly Hight Butler, County Commissioner 3-22-2022
 Date

_____, County Commissioner _____
 Date

_____, County Commissioner _____
 Date