

Find the best weed treatment options for your situation

Worried about weeds? Take a look at the table on page 5 to figure out what treatments are most effective for your circumstances.

The list includes weed species from the Wyoming Designated Noxious Weed list, “repeat offenders” from county lists, and common garden & landscape weeds.¹ Below are some general suggestions for how to implement a successful weed management plan.

Prevention

Prevention is the most effective control method for any weed. Stay ahead of the problem by containing the spread of current weed populations, learning about effective control methods, and using caution when bringing in soil or soil amendments that could introduce new weeds.

Handling

Many of the plants on this list can cause skin irritation when handled. Some weeds, like spotted and diffuse knapweed, are thought to cause serious illness. Wear gloves when handling weeds or hand pulling.

Proper disposal

Seeds can remain alive in the soil and sprout for years to come. Bagging or burning removed material helps with containment, but the site should still be monitored for new seedlings.

Use caution when placing removed materials in a compost pile. Piles must be regularly maintained and reach internal temperatures of 140°F for at least three days to kill weed seeds.

KEY



Red X: Not an effective means of control.



Yellow check: Indicates medium control over weed species; or that the control method has a lot of control potential but not as much research has been done; or the management method may have limitations. For instance, research indicating smothering is an effective control method for specific plants is limited, but inferences can be made based on the individual plant’s characteristics, such as root structure or response to shading.



Green check: An effective control method.



Gray column: Weed is on the Wyoming Designated Noxious Weed list.



White column: Weed is on multiple county-declared weed lists.



Asterisk: A common garden weed, not county declared or state designated.

Note: When herbicides are indicated as an effective treatment, that means there are several effective herbicide options to choose from. Consult your local weed and pest office to see what options are suitable for your situation.

Herbicides

When selecting an herbicide treatment, always follow the label instructions for application rate and timing. When in doubt, contact your local weed and pest office, extension office, or conservation district office.

Treatment tips

Treatment methods can behave differently in different ecosystems across the state and in different landscape settings (e.g., rangelands compared to raised garden beds). Consult your county weed and pest office for assistance in developing a management and safety plan.

When a variety of effective control methods are available for one single weed, consider trying more than one strategy. Combining multiple strategies often leads to better control.

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Wyoming’s weeds had better watch out for **Abby Perry**. A UW Extension educator based in Carbon County, she is co-coordinator of this magazine and can be reached at ajacks12@uwyo.edu or (307) 328-2642.

¹ This article was adapted from a new UW Extension bulletin titled “Weed Treatment Options.” To view the full text, visit <https://bit.ly/weed-treatment>.

	Annual mustards*	Baby's breath	Black henbane	Crabgrass	Cheatgrass	Common burdock	Common cocklebur	Common mallow*	Common mullein	Common ragweed*	Curlycup gumweed	Curly dock	Dandelion*	Dyers woad	Geyer larkspur	Field bindweed	Halogeton
Hand Pulling	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Herbicide	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tilling	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Mowing	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Revegetate/Outcompete	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Smothering (cardboard, tarp, mulch)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
Grazing	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
Biological Control	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗

	Hoary alyssum	Houndstongue	Kochia*	Knapweed, Diffuse	Knapweed, Russian	Knapweed, Spotted	Lamb-quarters*	Leaty spurge	Meadowshead rye	Ox-eye daisy	Palmer amaranth	Perennial pepperweed	Perennial sowthistle	Pigweeds (Amaranthus spp.)*	Poison hemlock	Puncturevine	Purple loosestrife	Quackgrass
Hand Pulling	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗
Herbicide	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Tilling	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Mowing	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Revegetate/Outcompete	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Smothering (cardboard, tarp, mulch)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Grazing	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Biological Control	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗

	Russian olive	Saltcedar	Scotch broom	Skeletonleaf bursage	St. Johnswort	Sulfur Cinquefoil	Thistle, Bull	Thistle, Canada	Thistle, Musk	Thistle, Plumless	Thistle, Russian*	Toadflax, Scotch	Toadflax, Dalmatian	Toadflax, Yellow	Vernonata	Whiteweed (hoary cress)	Wild licorice	Yellow starthistle
Hand Pulling	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Herbicide	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tilling	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mowing	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Revegetate/Outcompete	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
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Grazing	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Biological Control	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗