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## INSECT, PLANT DISEASE, & WEED SCIENCE NEWS [No. 87-24] [September 11, 1987]

Alex Martin

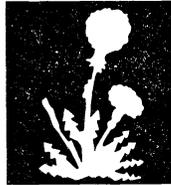
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## INSECT PLANT DISEASE WEED SCIENCE

## NEWS

DEPARTMENT OF AGRONOMY (WEED SCIENCE) UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN,  
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87-24

September 11, 1987

### In This Issue:

- Weeds in Winter Wheat
- Rangeland Weed Control with Atrazine
- Musk Thistle Control
- Field Bindweed and Other Perennials

### Weeds in Winter Wheat

Wheat seeding is underway. The seeded land may appear clean, however, if set-a-side acres or the 1987 crop had a pennycress or wild brome problem, chances are there will be a similar problem for the 1988 crop. Our worst weeds in winter wheat are those that germinate in the fall with the crop -- blue and tansy mustard, pennycress, wild mustard, cheat, hairy chess, and downy brome.

We pointed out in an earlier Newsletter that rotations and delayed planting are helpful cultural practices for troublesome weeds in winter wheat. After wheat is planted, effective herbicides are available for fall control of troublesome broadleaf weeds. Among the newer herbicides is Glean at one-sixth ounce per acre. Chemical costs are \$2.50 to \$3.00 per acre. Glean can be applied when wheat is in the 2 to 3 leaf stage. Brominal, Buctril, and 2,4-D can be used in late fall after the winter wheat is well tillered.

Currently there are no labeled herbicides for downy brome and hairy chess control after weed and winter wheat emergence.

### Rangeland Weed Control with Atrazine

Downy brome, hairy chess, pennycress, and mustards can be effectively controlled in rangeland with atrazine. It's not necessary to wait until late fall. Actually the most effective control would be from applications made in early fall. Winter annual weeds start growth in late August and September. Atrazine applications in September would be most effective on the newly germinated weeds. Use 1 to 2 pints of atrazine or AAtrex 4L or equivalent amounts of other atrazine formulations. Bluegrass and intermediate wheatgrass may be injured by the treatments. Aerial or ground applications can be made. According to the label, livestock should not be grazed for 7 months after making fall treatments.



### Musk Thistle Control

October and early November are excellent times to control musk thistle providing the weather cooperates. A good fall control program normally eliminates the need for spring control. This is because plants that would flower next summer are normally growing in the fall. However, the success of a fall control program depends on adequate fall rainfall. Most areas of the state have received moisture sufficient to germinate musk thistle. Dry weather reduces musk thistle seed germination and plant establishment. Where the weather has been dry, there may be no plants to control. Examine the site and determine if the thistle population justifies spraying. Herbicides and per acre rates to use on musk thistle are Tordon 22K at 6 to 8 fluid ounces, 2,4-D + Banvel at 1.0 lb + 0.5 pt, and 2,4-D at 1.5 to 2.0 lb. These treatments are ranked in order of effectiveness for fall application. Under very dry cool conditions only Tordon can be expected to perform well. Treatments should be applied after October 1.

### Field Bindweed and Other Perennials

Perennial weeds including field bindweed, Canada thistle, and leafy spurge can be effectively treated with herbicides in the fall. Food storage in the root system of these plants is taking place in the fall. Herbicides applied at this time to plants with excellent top growth readily move down to the roots along with the food. In the fall, temperatures and soil moisture are generally more favorable for plant growth than during the summer, a condition required for best herbicide performance.

Herbicides most useful for controlling these perennial weeds are 2,4-D, combinations of 2,4-D + Banvel, Roundup, and Tordon. Treatment with 2,4-D and combinations of 2,4-D + Banvel must be made repeatedly to obtain satisfactory control. Tordon use for perennial weeds is limited to grazingland and non-crop areas. Glean is also finding its niche in Canada thistle control programs.

Fall treatments can be made any time after mid-September but before hard freezes occur. Daytime temperatures in the 50's are satisfactory. It is not necessary to spray before frost as long as the plants are still green and growing.

*Alex R Martin*

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