



Noxious Weeds in Quay County

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My Opinion on Increased Amount of Noxious Weeds in Quay County?

Camelthorn

Description:

- Perennial - unpalatable
- Multiple green stems with fine branching
- Narrow to oblong leaves
- Pea-like flowers that are pink, purple, or white
- Extensive root system, can reproduce through roots or seeds (roots from up to 25 ft away)
- 1-4 ft height

Habitat:

- Semi-arid areas, rivers, floodplains
- Disturbed areas - fields, ditches, roads

Treatment:

- Healthy plant community
- Hand removal including most of root system
- Herbicides are effective***
- Mechanical can spread root fragments

***See NMSU Circular 597 and follow chemical labels



Halogeton

Description:

- Annual forb
- Stems are branched at the base, often purple or red
- Leaves are dull green to blue-green, look like fleshy cylinders
- Flowers - dense bunches at leaf axil, no true petal, greenish-yellow to red in color
- 2-18 in height

Habitat:

- Disturbed areas - fields, ditches, roads, pastures especially arid area with high alkaline or salt

Toxic:

- All parts of plant are toxic to livestock (oxalates) if ingested, especially sheep

Treatment:

- Healthy plant community, poor competitor
- Mechanical removal effective for small infestations
- Herbicides are effective***
- Burning is NOT effective



Hoary Cress

Description:

- Perennial - 3 different species occur in NM
- Mostly single stems that are hairy with some branching near top
- Leaves are alternate, gray-green, oblong to narrow, sometimes hairy and are round, oval or heart-shaped
- Flower are numerous small, white, with 4 petals
- Seed pods are round, oval or heart-shaped
- 6-24 in height

Habitat:

- Irrigated pastures, rangeland, hay fields and disturbed areas

Treatment:

- Repeated cultivation 1-2 times per month for 2-4 yrs
- Mechanical removal must remove root system
- Mowing in early flower growth stage may reduce seed production
- Herbicides are effective***



Musk thistle

Description:

- Biennial
- Very large pink to purple flowers
- Leaves are dark green with a light green center and spiny margins
- 2-6 ft height

Habitat:

- Open areas, disturbed areas, ditches, roadsides, stream banks
- Crowds out native vegetation

Treatment:

- Mechanical - cut roots below soil surface and remove stems before flowering
- Herbicides are effective***
- DO NOT - use fire or mow during/after flowering



Perennial pepperweed

Description:

- Creeping herbaceous perennial
- Numerous semi-woody stems, waxy with some branching near top
- Leaves are green to gray-green, oval to narrow, and do not clasp stem
- Flowers are small, white with 4 petals to form a dense inflorescence that are rounded on top
- 2-5 ft height

Habitat:

- Riparian areas, irrigation ditches, floodplains, and wetlands

Treatment:

- Healthy plant community, poor competitor
- Hand pulling all roots and seedlings
- Mowing is NOT effective control
- Herbicides are effective***



Rayless Goldenrod - Jimmyweed

Description:

- Low-growing half-shrub
- Erect stems and woody crown
- Flowers are yellow, small, bunches at tip of stems
- 2-4 ft height

Habitat:

- Dry rangelands, river valleys, drainages

Toxic Agent:

- Can poison all species of livestock
- Toxic agent is tremetone
- Toxic as green or dry (year round)
- Can pass through milk, and may show in young and not mother
- Humans have been poisoned by consuming milk from effected cattle
- Lethal dose 1.0 to 1.5 percent of animal's weight over 2-3 weeks



Rayless Goldenrod - Jimmyweed continued

Signs of poisoning:

- “Trembles” - muscular trembling very noticeable around the nose, hips, and shoulders. Especially after exercise.
- Stiffness and weakness in forelegs
- Later stages - animals will lie down and not be able to rise
- Other - Constipation, vomiting, fast and labored breathing, dribbling of urine

Treatment:

- Hand dig including crown
- Herbicides are effective***



Russian knapweed

Description:

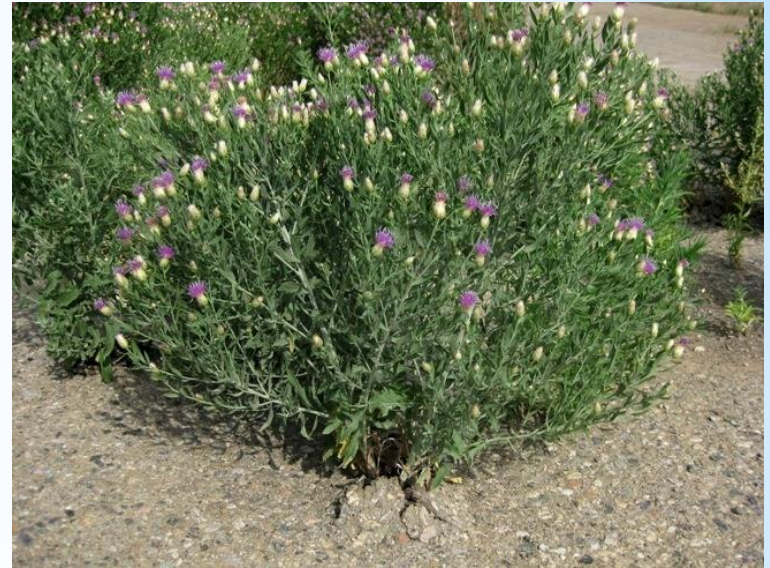
- Herbaceous perennial
- Numerous branching stems
- Lower leaves are alternate and lobed or wavy margins
- Upper leaves are linear or lanceolate, that are green to light green
- Leaves and stems covered with dense gray hairs
- Flower heads are round with pink, purple, or white flowers. Below flowers are numerous green, papery bracts
- 1-3 ft height

Habitat:

- Pastures, degraded croplands, alfalfa fields, rangelands, roadsides, riparian areas, irrigation ditches

Treatment:

- Prevention and early detection, large infestations are extremely hard to control
- Maintain a healthy plant community
- Herbicides are effective***



Spotted knapweed

Description:

- Biennial to short lived perennial
- Leaves often grayish hairs
- Single flower head, usually pinkish-purple, sometimes white
- Below flowers are green bracts with dark brown to black comb-like tip
- Up to 4 ft height

Habitat:

- Disturbed areas - fields, ditches, roads, rangeland

Treatment:

- Mechanical must remove 3-4 in of root crown
- Introduced biological control agents
- Herbicides are effective***
- Fire is NOT effective



Yellow starthistle

Description:

- Annual
- Stiff, wiry stems that are branched
- Flower heads found at stem ends, with yellow flower and stiff, sharp, straw colored bracts (spines) below flower
- 1-6 ft height

Habitat:

- Disturbed areas - fields, ditches, roads, pastures

Toxic:

- Toxic to horses if consumed

Treatment:

- Healthy plant community
- Frequent cultivation is effective
- Herbicides are effective***
- Mow in late bud or early bloom to reduce seed production
- Burning is effective if done before seed production



Russian Olive

Description:

- Perennial tree or large shrub
- Trunk is gray or brown, sometimes course or scaly
- Leaves dull to gray-green with silvery underside
- Extensive root systems with root crown and creeping perennial roots
- Reproduces from seeds (small green “Olive looking”) and creeping perennial roots
- 16-40 ft height

Habitat:

- Grasslands, rangelands, woodlands, desert, and especially riparian areas
- Disturbed areas - roadsides, ditches, open fields

Treatment:

- Herbicides are effective***
- Mechanical is effective
- Prevention and early detection are the most effective



Saltcedar

Description:

- Small shrub or tree
- Rough reddish-brown bark, numerous dense, thin stems
- Small scale-like green/blue-green leaves
- Flowers are long racemes with numerous small flowers that are white to pink/purple
- 5-25 ft height

Habitat:

- Riparian area such as rivers, streams, lakes, irrigation ditches
- Roadsides and rangeland

Treatment:

- Mechanical is effective if the root crown is removed
- Herbicides are effective***
- Burning is NOT effective



Tree of heaven

Description:

- Deciduous tree that can tolerate shade, pollution, and harsh soil conditions
- Erect with single trunk. Small trees have smooth, gray-brown bark, larger trees have rough bark
- Leaves are pinnate-divided and have 10 -22 pairs of opposite leaflets
- Flowers develop in bunches, that are small, greenish-yellow to white
- Seed pods are flat, have a single seed, straw to reddish brown color, grow in bunches
- Very pungent smell when broken
- Up to 65 ft in height

Habitat:

- Disturbed areas - fields, ditches, and roads as well as riparian areas and woodlands.

Treatment:

- Healthy plant community
- Mechanical removal effective only if root crown and lateral roots are removed
- Herbicides are effective***



Others..... Silverleaf Nightshade

Description:

- Perennial
- Stems are upright, gray-green with small spines
- Leaves are long, lanceolate, with hairs and spines and gray-green in color
- Flower is purple that produces globe like seed pod that is green and ripens to bright yellow
- Up to 3 ft height

Habitat:

- Rangeland, cropland, disturbed sites

Toxic:

- Entire plant is poisonous to horses, sheep, cattle, and people
- Some birds and wildlife can eat the fruit

Treatment:

- Healthy plant community
- Mechanical removal effective for small infestations, can regrow from roots so needs to be repetitive
- Herbicides are effective***



Snow on the Mountain

Description:

- Annual forb
- Single stem, milky sap
- Leaves are green, oblong
- Flowers are small cups, with white and green bracts that provide the coloring of the plant
- Seeds are 3 to a pod, related to poinsettia
- 2- 4 ft height

Habitat:

- Disturbed areas - ditches, roads, playas, waste areas

Toxic:

- Milky sap is poisonous and will cause inflammation of the skin, mouth, and throat. Plant can have effect dry or fresh.
- Rarely causes death

Treatment:

- Healthy plant community, poor competitor
- Mechanical removal effective for small infestations, but can regenerate from roots
- Herbicides are effective***



Spiny cocklebur

Description:

- Annual
- Stems are branched, with yellow spines at the base of the leaf
- Leaves are lanceolate, with the underside covered in dense white hairs, and one main vein
- Have both male and female flowers on the same plant
- Male flowers are small, green, and in clusters
- Female flowers are spiny with 2 flowers that harden into prickly burs with 2 seeds at maturity
- Up to 3 ft height

Habitat:

- Disturbed areas - ditches, roads, fields, pastures, riparian areas

Treatment:

- Mechanical removal effective if before burs develop
- DO NOT cut and leave the plants with immature burs, they can still develop into viable seed
- Herbicides are effective***



Threadleaf Groundsel

Description:

- Perennial
- Many-stemmed evergreen composite
- Stems and leaves are gray-green
- Leaves are thick and elongated
- Flowers are yellow
- 1-2 ft height

Habitat:

- Rocky, sandy, gravelly soil of dry upland prairies and roadsides

Toxic:

- Toxic to cattle, sheep, and horses and effects the liver
- Poisoning is rare under good range condition

Treatment:

- Healthy plant community, poor competitor
- Mechanical removal effective for small infestations
- Herbicides are effective, but rarely require treatment under good range conditions***



Toothed Spurge

Description:

- Annual forb- varies in amount from yr to yr
- Stem is hairy, upright, green to reddish
- Leaves are green, lanceolate with toothed margins, small reddish/purple spots
- Seeds are green 3 lobed that matures to purple, related to poinsettia
- Flower is small, cream/yellow bowl shaped
- 2-3 ft height

Habitat:

- Cropland, rangeland, pasture, roadsides

Toxic:

- Milky sap is poisonous and will blister skin, mouth, etc. Can cause blindness if eaten in large quantities or if in direct contact with eye

Treatment:

- Healthy plant community, poor competitor
- Herbicides are effective, but has shown resistance to glyphosate***



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