

Rangeland Newsletter

FALL 2012

New Tool for Mesquite Control

Recently, Dow AgroSciences has released a new herbicide called Sendero™. This product has two active ingredients, aminopyralid + clopyralid, which means that it is not a restricted use herbicide and does not require a pesticide applicator's license to purchase or apply. Recent testing of this herbicide has shown that it provides nearly 40 percent more consistent control than the traditional mix of Remedy Ultra and Reclaim. Foliar applications should be made when:

- 1) The soil temperature at 12-inches below the surface is 75° F or higher
- 2) The mesquite leaves are a dark green color all over, rather than some light green new growth at the ends. Applications should be avoided immediately following a significant rainfall, as the production of too much new growth will reduce the movement of herbicide to the root system.
- 3) The mesquite tree is not flowering or elongating the beans.
- 4) The leaves are healthy. No more than 25% of the leaves can have damage by insects, hail, disease, or rodents.

Soil moisture is another important factor to consider before treating. Even though mesquite is a deep rooted plant, treatments should be delayed if plants are under drought stress. If you miss the foliar treatment timing window, you do have other options to help manage mesquite, including mechanical treatments or basal stem treatments. For more information on mesquite control options, contact the Extension office.

Inventory Weeds

Noble Foundation, Ag News & Views, August 2012

As you probably know, it's now too late in the summer to spray for most pasture weeds. There are a few exceptions, but most weeds in pastures should be sprayed in the spring when the yearlings are young and actively growing. Now is a good time to inventory your weed situation. One thing is for sure - if you have a lot of weeds in a certain place this year, you'll probably have them again in that place next year. Right now, weeds are large enough to see and most will have seed heads or fruiting parts that make them easier to identify. This greatly aids in inventorying the weeds. First, identify the species and abundance of each of the weeds you want to control. Mark this information on a field map and highlight areas where there are hard-to-control weeds or particularly high numbers of weeds. Be sure to accurately identify areas where you might be able to spot spray difficult-to-control weeds and save some money by not spraying the entire pasture. Next, identify areas on the map you don't want to spray or where you don't want to spray certain herbicides. Examples are areas where you want to maintain clovers or an area with wildlife food plots. In these areas, you may want to avoid herbicides altogether or use herbicides that are not as harsh on the plants you want to keep. After you have inventoried the situation, sit down and work out a spray plan and budget that includes the correct herbicides to use and when to use them. Many of the weed control failures we see are due to using incorrect products for the targeted weeds or spraying at the wrong time of year.