

Mistaken Notions about Pasture Weed Control



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All brush and weeds are bad

- ✓ Some weeds provide good grazing.
- ✓ Brush and weeds provide wildlife habitat



Weed control always produces more grass.

- ✓ There is no guarantee of increased production.
- ✓ There must be a population of desirable plants before spraying.
- ✓ Good management after spraying is needed.

Weed control always increases profit.

Compare cost vs. benefit before spraying.

- What is the forage response?
- How long does the treatment last?

One treatment will do it.

- ✓ Weed and brush control treatments are not permanent.
- ✓ Monitor the site regularly.
- ✓ Some maintenance treatments will be required.
- ✓ Desired results will not happen overnight.

A little more will do it.

- ✓ Using more herbicide than recommended will not kill more weeds.
- ✓ High rates may defoliate some plants rapidly and reduce root kill.

My neighbor told me....

- ✓ Home brews may be dangerous.
- ✓ Many are illegal.
- ✓ Before using a “coffee shop recommendation,” check with an expert.
- ✓ Call before you spray, not after.

Wait until the brush gets big and then kill it.....

- ✓ Wrong!
- ✓ Little brush is easier to kill.
- ✓ Small plants are easier to treat individually.
- ✓ Individual plant treatments are more effective.



Treat from fence line to fence line.

- ✓ Target the areas with the most potential for production.
- ✓ Leave rough sites with thin or poor soil for wildlife.

After I spray, this place will turn into solid grass.

- ✓ Weed and brush control are no silver bullet.
- ✓ Overall management must also improve.
- ✓ Treatments do not have the same results every time.
- ✓ Herbicide treatments are greatly affected by unpredictable factors like climate, weeds present, and timing of application

It is OK to use illegal herbicides.

- ✓ Labels aren't suggestions, they are state and federal law.
- ✓ MSMA is the most common illegal use.
- ✓ Arsenic residues are readily detected.
- ✓ MSMA can kill cattle and horses.
- ✓ If you sell someone MSMA treated hay and their livestock gets sick or dies you will be responsible.

Arsenic residues (PPM) on coastal bermudagrass 7 and 36 days after application.

MSMA lb/acre	7 DAT	36 DAT	36 DAT
0	9.3	1.5	0.1
1	330	25	14
5	1921	39	17