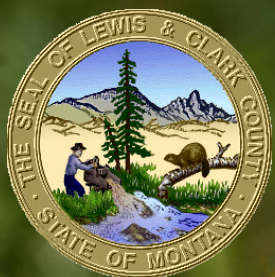


Management of *Senecio jacobaea* (tansy ragwort)



Lewis and Clark County Noxious
Weed Control District
3402 Cooney Dr Helena | MT 59602

Montana Priority 2A Noxious Weed

Plant Description

Senecio jacobaea, tansy ragwort, is a short-lived perennial or biennial forb with a taproot. The leaves are pinnately lobed and fern-like in appearance. The basal leaves die back at or before flowering. The flowers are bright yellow and form at the ends of the branches which grow 20-80 cm tall. Tansy ragwort is sparsely hairy, with the hairs being tangled and cobwebby in appearance. Tansy ragwort reproduces through seeds and root buds.

Mechanical Control

Hand removal can provide effective control for small infestations, but regrowth is to be expected. Follow-up management is necessary. Efforts should be made to remove all of the taproot and fleshy rootstock. Bag and dispose of all plant material if the plant is in pre-bloom or bloom stage. Mowing is not an effective control method.

Biological Control

Tyria jacobaeae (the cinnabar moth) is possible to collect and distribute within state, but no interstate shipments are allowed due to its observed non-target damage on native plant species. *Longitarsus jacobaeae* (the tansy ragwort flea beetle) is available in three different strains. The Swiss strain has shown the best establishment within Montana.

For more information contact the Montana Biocontrol Coordinator at mmagio@missoulacounty.us

Cultural Control

Revegetation is important. Introduce desirable species, especially in areas with disturbance. Plant competition prevents invasions of new and existing unwanted vegetation. Controlled burning is not effective because plants quickly establish from root buds.



© Craig Althen



Recommended Treatment Timeline

Control Type	Spring	Summer	Fall
Mechanical	Hand pull or dig, bag and dispose	Hand pull or dig, bag and dispose	Hand pull or dig, bag and dispose
Biological	Contact the Montana Biocontrol Coordinator at mmagio@missoulacounty.us		
Cultural	Revegetation		Revegetation
Chemical	Foliar spray		Foliar spray

Chemical Control

Follow the directions on herbicide labels, the label is the law. Calibrate equipment for accurate application. Commonly used herbicides are listed below, order of listing is not reflective of efficacy or recommendation.

Personal protective equipment must be worn when applying herbicides. Only apply herbicides in appropriate weather conditions.^a

Use appropriate surfactants as listed in the product label.^a

^aRead and follow all instructions in the label of the herbicide.

Chemical Control Table							
Use Site	Herbicide (Active Ingredient - Trademark)	Pre-emergent or Soil Residual Activity	Post-emergent (Foliar Applied)	Large Sprayer Rate per Acre	Spot Treatment Rate for Every 1 Gallon of Water	Restricted Entry Interval (Hours)	Application Notes and Environmental Advisories*
Turfgrass, Non-Cropland, Rangeland	2,4-D -Several products available	no	yes	Consult label	Consult label	48	Apply during rosette stage in spring or fall. Toxic to fish and aquatic invertebrates. Groundwater and surface water advisories.
Turfgrass	2,4-D Amine, Dicamba, MCPA – Gordon's Trimec ^b	no	yes	Consult label	Consult label	48	Do not broadcast apply when air temperatures exceed 90°F. Apply before the flowering stage to prevent seed production; best applied to young plants from the rosette to bolting stage. Toxic to fish and aquatic invertebrates. Groundwater and surface water advisories.
Rangeland, Permanent Grass Pasture, CRP, Natural Areas	Aminopyralid + metsulfuron methyl - Chaparral ^b	no	yes	2.5 - 3 oz	0.7 - 1 gram	48	Apply on actively growing plants in the rosette stage. Non-target organism advisory. Windblown soil particles advisory.
Forest	Clopyralid - Transline ^b , Sonoro ^b	no	yes	¾ - 1 ½ pt	Consult label	12	Apply on actively growing plants from rosette to early flower bud stage. Groundwater and surface water advisories. Sonoro is combustible.
Rangeland, Non-Cropland, ROW	Aminopyralid* -Milestone ^b	no	yes	5 - 7 oz	Calibration necessary, consult label for conversion	48	Apply on actively growing plants in the rosette stage. Groundwater and surface water advisories.
	Aminopyralid + metsulfuron methyl - Opensight ^b	no	yes	2.5 - 3 oz	0.7 - 1 gram	48	Apply on actively growing plants in the rosette stage. Non-target organism advisory. Windblown soil particles advisory.
Non-Cropland, ROW	Metsulfuron methyl -Escort XP ^b	no	yes	0.5 - 1 oz	1 gram	4	Apply on young rapidly growing plants before flowering in spring. Groundwater and surface water advisories. Non-target organism advisory. Windblown soil particles advisory.
	Chlorsulfuron -Telar XP ^b	yes	yes	1 - 2.6 oz	0.6 - 1.6 grams	5	Apply on rosettes in the spring before bolting, or to fall rosettes. Groundwater and surface water advisories. Non-target organism advisory.
Ornamentals	Glyphosate - Roundup ProMax ^b	no	yes	1 ½ - 2 ¾ qt (Roundup ProMax ^b)	15% v/v solution (Roundup ProMax ^b)	4	Apply at any growth stage. Surface water advisory.

^bLewis and Clark County Noxious Weed Control Division does not endorse any trademarks or commercial names listed above.

This table summarizes selected registered use sites and is not intended to represent all approved uses. Pesticide applicability, use sites, and restrictions vary by product and formulation. Applicators must consult and follow the most current product label, which takes precedence over this document.

References

- Alligare. *Sonora*. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Registration No. 81927-69.
- Bayer Cropscience. (2020). *Roundup ProMax*. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Registration No. 524-579.
- Corteva Agriscience. (2023). *Chaparral*. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Registration No. 62719-597.
- Corteva Agriscience. (2023). *Milestone*. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Registration No. 62719-519.
- Corteva Agriscience. (2023). *Opensight*. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Registration No. 62719-597.
- Corteva Agriscience. (2025). *Tordon 22k*. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Registration No. 62719-6.
- Corteva Agriscience. (2022). *Transline*. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Registration No. 62719-259.
- Ditomaso, J. M., Kyser, G. B., Oneto, S. R., Wilson, R. G., Orloff, S. B., Anderson, L. W., Wright, S. D., Roncoroni, J. A., Miller, T. L., Prother, T. S., Ransom, C. V., Kenneth George Beck, Duncan, C. A., Wilson, K. A., J Jeremiah Mann, Department, Davis., & Weed, Davis. (2013). *Weed control in natural areas in the Western United States*. University Of California Weed Research And Information Center. 62719-259.
- Envu. *Escort XP*. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Registration No. 101563-167.
- Envu. *Telar XP*. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Registration No. 101563-176.
- PBI Gordon Corporation. *Gordon's Amine 400 2,4-D Weed Killer*. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Registration No. 2217-2.
- PBI Gordon Corporation. *Trimec Classic BroadleafHerbicide*. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Registration No. 2217-543.
- Tansy Ragwort — *Senecio jacobaea*. Montana Field Guide. Montana Natural Heritage Program. <https://FieldGuide.mt.gov/speciesDetail.aspx?elcode=PDAST8H1U0>

