

Russian knapweed

Acroptilon repens



- Russian knapweed is a perennial that spreads by seed and creeping horizontal roots extending 20 feet deep. Roots have a black scaly casing
- Flowers are purple (rarely white) in color with smooth papery tipped bracts on the sides. Seeds can remain viable in soils for 2 to 3 years
- Grows up to 3 feet tall, with short, stiff hairs on stems and leaves
- Reproduces mainly from the aggressive spreading root system

Negative Impacts

- Poisonous to horses when they eat half or more of their body weight over any length of time. Chewing disease causes severe weight loss that results in a slow death
- Makes a toxic compound (herbicide) that kills competing plants
- Tolerates very dry to wet growing conditions in all types of soils Found growing from 2,000 ft. near Tucson, AZ to 10,500 ft. elev. in San Juan Mountains
- Extremely competitive and crowds out practically all other vegetation
- Infestations reduce agricultural production, elk grazing and wildlife use



Extension



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Chemical Control (always add non-ionic surfactant @ 1 oz for each 3 gallons of water, except with Plateau) **Read Labels for safety info & to see if products are approved for your site or near desirable trees.**

Treatment Timing: Apply during pre-bloom, bud growth stage or in the Fall during early frost

Milestone (Aminopyralid) Do Not Use Near Trees

- 4 to 6 oz per acre
- Spot treatment: refer to spot application chart in product label

Redeem (Triclopyr + Clopyralid)

- 3 to 4 pints per acre
- Spot treatment: 1.1 to 1.5 fl oz. per 1 gal or more to cover 1,000 sq. feet

Perspective (Aminocyclopyrachlor)

- 5 to 8 oz per acre
- Spot treatment: 1.6 to 2.4 oz per 5 gallons of water based on 1 gal covers 1750 sq. feet

Fall During Early Frost Treatment:

Plateau (Imazapic) + Metholated seed oil.

- 12 oz per acre
- Spot treatment: 1.8 oz per gal of water

Mechanical Control:

- Hand pulling, digging and tillage are **not** viable options

Stopping flowering and seed production is critical for success. Mowing alone is ineffective.

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