

Weeds in Grass Pastures and Hayfields

Kentucky ANR Agents Survey
October 2021

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Problematic Weeds of Grass Pastures*

KY ANR agent survey (Oct 2021)

- ❖ 73% Buttercup spp. [16]
- ❖ 66% Tall Ironweed [4]
- ❖ 45% Spiny Amaranth (pigweed) [3]
- ❖ 42% Common Cocklebur [4]
- ❖ 32% Common Ragweed [also Lanceleaf Ragweed] [0]
- ❖ 32% Thistles [1]
- ❖ 29% Poison Hemlock [4]
- ❖ 24% Horsenettle [1]
- ❖ 21% Foxtail (Yellow) [1]
- ❖ 18% Chicory [1]
- ❖ 18% Curly Dock [0]

*Based on 5 most problematic weeds
32 different species indicated

[x] number of times indicated as first choice

Why Weeds ARE Controlled*

KY ANR agent survey (Oct 2021)

- ❖ 68% Weeds reduce forage yield / carrying capacity (7)
- ❖ 53% Aesthetics – make the place look good (4)
- ❖ 50% Concerned about poisonous plants (11)
- ❖ 47% Weeds reduce forage quality (10)
- ❖ 42% Remove weeds that animals did not eat (4)

* Each survey participant listed top 3 reasons
Value in () indicates the number of times indicated as the first reason

Why Weeds ARE NOT Controlled*

KY ANR agent survey (Oct 2021)

- ❖ 71% Low / poor management (7)
- ❖ 61% Do not want to kill clover (11)
- ❖ 53% Herbicides too expensive (4)
- ❖ 42% Spray equipment limitations (5)
- ❖ 34% Lack of time (7)
- ❖ 18% Land topography (steep terrain, etc.) (1)
- ❖ 11% Mowing too expensive (1)
- ❖ 5% Grazing restrictions with herbicides (1)

* Each survey participant listed top 3 reasons
Value in () indicates the number of times indicated as the first reason

Pastures Mowed

KY ANR agent survey (Oct 2021)

- Times per year pastures are mowed
 - 54% 1 time
 - 41% 2 times
 - 5% 3 times
- ~60% percent of acres mowed each year

Target weeds for herbicide applications in grass PASTURES*

KY ANR agent survey (Oct 2021)

- ❖ 55% Buttercup
- ❖ 40% Cocklebur
- ❖ 32% Tall Ironweed
- ❖ 29% Thistles (musk thistle)
- ❖ 21% Poison Hemlock
- ❖ 16% Spiny amaranth (pigweed)
- ❖ 13% Johnsongrass
- ❖ 8% Horsenettle

* ~25% PASTURE acres sprayed with a herbicide

Problematic Weeds of Grass Hayfields*

KY ANR agent survey (Oct 2021)

- ❖ 79% Johnsongrass [21]
- ❖ 55% Foxtail (Yellow) [0]
- ❖ 42% Poison Hemlock [2]
- ❖ 34% Tall Ironweed [3]
- ❖ 26% Buttercup [1]
- ❖ 24% Common Ragweed [0]
- ❖ 24% Common Milkweed [0]
- ❖ 21% Buckhorn Plantain [1]
- ❖ 18% Cocklebur [3]
- ❖ 18% Horsenettle [1]
- ❖ 16% Curly Dock [1]

*Based on 5 most problematic weeds
33 different species indicated

[x] number of times indicated as first choice

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Target weeds for herbicide applications in grass HAYFIELDS*

KY ANR agent survey (Oct 2021)

- ❖ 34% Tall Ironweed
- ❖ 24% Poison Hemlock
- ❖ 21% Cocklebur
- ❖ 16% Johnsongrass
- ❖ 16% Thistles
- ❖ 13% Buttercup

* ~26% Grass HAYFIELDS sprayed with a herbicide

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