

Invasive Plants of Wisconsin



Teasels (*Dipsacus* spp.)

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Herbaceous plant that grows as a basal rosette for at least one year. Forms a spiny, angled flowering stalk, 2-6' tall, typically in 2nd or 3rd year, then dies (monocarpic perennial).

Legal Classification in WI: Restricted

Leaves: Stem leaves are opposite, large (up to 1.5' long), oblong, and covered in spines, especially along the midrib. Leaves of flowering plants join into cup around stem. Rosette leaves are oval in young rosettes to oblong and hairy in older rosettes.

Common teasel (*Dipsacus fullonum*) - Stem leaves are not lobed.

Cut-leaved teasel (*Dipsacus laciniatus*) - Upper stem leaves are lobed.

Flowers: Summer. Common teasel begins blooming earlier than cut-leaved teasel. Small flowers clustered in dense, oval heads. Stiff, spiny, leaf-like bracts curve up from base of flower head. The flower colors listed below are generally correct, but both species have exhibited the flower color generally associated with the opposite species.

Common teasel - Purple flowers and bracts longer than the flower heads.

Cut-leaved teasel - White flowers and bracts shorter than the flower heads.

Fruits & seeds: Fruits are light brown, ridged, and hairy. About 1/5" long and each fruit contains a single seed. Fruit are borne on a compact inflorescence at end of flowering stalk.

Roots: Deep taproot, up to 2' long and 1" in diameter.

Similar species: None known.

Ecological threat:

- Invades open areas, including prairies, savannas, and sedge meadows, as well as roadsides and disturbed areas.
- Teasel is still used in horticultural plantings and dried flower arrangements.

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CONTROL METHODS:

Non-Chemical control

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| <p>Removal – Cutting the root from the stem or pulling is an effective individual plant control technique. Cut the entire tap root with a sharp shovel or spade 1-2” below the surface. Pull if soil conditions allow for the removal of the tap root. If flowers are present, bag material and dispose of in a landfill to avoid potential for seed spread.</p> |
| <p>Mowing – Mowing, timed just after flower heads open, but before seeds enlarge can be effective. Plants may re-sprout and still flower, but rarely do plants produce viable seed. Monitor populations and repeat mowing if concerned about seed production from re-sprouting plants that flower. Care must be taken not to mow when mature seeds could be present as this will spread the seed throughout the site.</p> |
| <p>Prescribed burning – Spring burns can kill germinating seedlings and can suppress above ground growth of established plants depending on fire intensity. After the fire, established plants will quickly re-sprout and invade areas. Fire may benefit other species well adapted to this management (e.g. prairie grasses), resulting in improved competition with teasel. Burns also allow for increased visibility of rosettes for follow-up treatment as they are often one of the first plants to green up after a burn. A hand-held propane torch can be effective for treating seedlings.</p> |
| <p>Manipulation of the environment – Establishment and maintenance of vigorous perennial grass species may effectively compete with established populations as well as reduce the establishment of teasel at a site.</p> |

Chemical control²

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| <p>Foliar – Apply directly to individual plants or broadcast across an infested area. Broadcasted foliar applications are typically the most cost effective treatment in dense infestations. Use lower rates on smaller plants and less dense populations and higher rates on larger plants and denser populations.</p> | |
| <p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): 2,4-D</p> | <p>Rate – <i>broadcast</i>: 1.0 – 2.0 lb a.e./A <i>spot</i>: 0.6 - 1% (0.025 - 0.4 lb a.e./gal)</p> |
| <p>Common product name: Many</p> | <p>Timing – Apply to rosettes in fall or spring.</p> <p>Remarks – Applications after bolting may be less effective.</p> <p>Caution - Overspray or drift to desirable plants should be avoided, as even minute quantities of the spray may cause severe injury.</p> |

² Herbicide information is based on label rates and reports by researchers and land managers. Products known to provide effective control or in common use are included. Those that do not provide sufficient control or lack information for effectiveness on target species have been omitted. References to pesticide products in this publication are for your convenience and not an endorsement of one product over a similar product. You are responsible for using pesticides in accordance with the label directions. *Read the label before any application.*

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| <p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): aminopyralid</p> <p>Common product name: Milestone</p> | <p>Rate – <i>broadcast</i>: 5 - 7 fl oz/A (0.08 – 0.1 lb a.e./A) <i>spot</i>: Equivalent to broadcast rates.</p> <p>Timing – Apply to rosettes in fall or spring.</p> <p>Remarks – Applications after bolting may be less effective. Depending on the volume of solution applied per acre, typical mixtures for spot treatments are 2 – 7 mL milestone per gallon of water.</p> <p>Caution – Persists in soil for up to one year, especially active on legumes. Do not compost treated plants as herbicide can persist through composting process. Overspray or drift to desirable plants should be avoided, as even minute quantities of the spray may cause severe injury.</p> |
| <p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): dicamba + 2,4-D</p> <p>Common product name: Outlaw</p> | <p>Rate – <i>broadcast</i>: 56 - 64 fl oz/A (dicamba: 0.5 - 0.55 lb a.e./A + 2,4-D: 0.6 - 0.7 lb ae/A) <i>spot</i>: 0.8% (dicamba: 0.009 lb a.e./gal + 2,4-D: 0.01 lb a.e./gal)</p> <p>Timing – Apply to rosettes in fall or spring.</p> <p>Remarks – Applications after bolting may be less effective.</p> <p>Caution – Rates of dicamba > 16oz/A (0.5 lb a.e./A) may cause stunting and discoloration of sensitive grasses, such as smooth brome. Overspray or drift to desirable plants should be avoided, as even minute quantities of the spray may cause severe injury.</p> |
| <p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): dicamba + diflufenzopyr</p> <p>Common product name: Overdrive</p> | <p>Rate – <i>broadcast</i>: 6 - 8 oz/A (dicamba: 3.0 – 4.0 oz a.e./A + diflufenzopyr 1.2 – 1.6 oz a.e./A) <i>spot</i>: Equivalent to broadcast rates.</p> <p>Timing – Apply to rosettes in fall or spring.</p> <p>Remarks – Applications after bolting may be less effective.</p> <p>Caution – Rates of dicamba > 16oz/A (0.5 lb a.e./A) may cause stunting and discoloration of sensitive grasses, such as smooth brome. Overspray or drift to desirable plants should be avoided, as even minute quantities of the spray may cause severe injury.</p> |

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| <p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): chlorsulfuron</p> <p>Common product name: Telar</p> | <p>Rate – <i>broadcast</i>: 1.0 – 2.5 oz/A (0.75 – 2.0 oz a.i./A) <i>spot</i>: Equivalent to broadcast rates.</p> <p>Timing – Apply to rosettes in fall or spring.</p> <p>Remarks – Applications after bolting may be less effective</p> <p>Caution - Chlorsulfuron can remain active in the soil for months depending on application rate. Has potential to leach through soil into ground water under certain conditions. Use of this chemical in areas where soils are permeable, particularly where the water table is shallow, may result in ground-water contamination.</p> |
| <p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): glyphosate</p> <p>Common product name: Roundup</p> | <p>Rate – <i>broadcast</i>: 1.5 – 3 lb a.e./A <i>spot</i>: 1.5 – 2.0 % (0.07 - 0.09 lb a.e./gal)</p> <p>Timing – Apply to rosettes in fall or spring.</p> <p>Caution – Applications can result in bare ground as glyphosate is not selective. Use aquatically labeled product if potential exists for solution to contact open waters.</p> |
| <p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): imazapic</p> <p>Common product name: Plateau</p> | <p>Rate – <i>broadcast</i>: 8 – 12 fl oz/A (0.15 - 0.2 lb a.e./A) <i>spot</i>: 0.25 - 1.5% (0.005 - 0.025 lb a.e./gal)</p> <p>Timing – Apply to rosettes in fall or spring.</p> <p>Caution – Has potential to leach through soil into ground water under certain conditions. Use of this chemical in areas where soils are permeable, particularly where the water table is shallow, may result in ground-water contamination.</p> |
| <p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): imazapyr</p> <p>Common product name: Arsenal</p> | <p>Rate – <i>broadcast</i>: 48 - 64 fl oz/A (0.75 – 1.0 lb a.e./A) <i>spot</i>: 0.5 - 1% (0.01 - 0.02 lb a.e./gal)</p> <p>Timing – Apply to rosettes in fall or spring.</p> <p>Caution - Applications can result in bare ground as imazapyr is not selective and can remain active in the soil for several months to over a year depending on application rate. Use aquatically labeled product if potential exists for solution to contact open waters.</p> |

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| <p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): metsulfuron</p> <p>Common product name: Escort</p> | <p>Rate – <i>broadcast</i>: 0.75 – 1.0 oz/A (0.5 – 0.6 a.i./A) <i>spot</i>: 1oz/100 gallons (0.6 oz a.i./100 gal)</p> <p>Timing – Apply to rosettes in fall or spring.</p> <p>Caution - Metsulfuron can remain active in the soil for months depending on application rate. Has potential to leach through soil into ground water under certain conditions. Use of this chemical in areas where soils are permeable, particularly where the water table is shallow, may result in ground-water contamination.</p> |
| <p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): triclopyr</p> <p>Common product name: Tahoe 4</p> | <p>Rate – <i>broadcast</i>: 16 - 32 fl oz/A (1.5 - 3.0 lb a.e./A) <i>spot</i>: 1 - 2% (0.12 - 0.23 lb a.e./gal)</p> <p>Timing – Apply to rosettes in fall or spring.</p> <p>Caution – Can volatilize, avoid application during high temperatures and low humidity, especially when the application contacts impervious surfaces. Overspray or drift to desirable plants should be avoided as even minute quantities of the spray may cause severe injury. Use aquatically labeled product if potential exists for solution to contact open waters.</p> |
| <p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): triclopyr + clopyralid</p> <p>Common product name: Redeem R+P</p> | <p>Rate – <i>broadcast</i>: 24 - 32 fl oz/A (triclopyr: 0.4 – 0.6 lb a.e./A + clopyralid: 0.15 – 0.2 lb a.e./A) <i>spot</i>: 0.3 – 0.6% (triclopyr: 0.01 – 0.015 lb a.e./A + clopyralid: 0.002 – 0.004 lb a.e./A)</p> <p>Timing – Apply to rosettes in fall or spring.</p> <p>Caution – Can volatilize, avoid application during high temperatures and low humidity, especially when the application contacts impervious surfaces. Do not apply where soils have a rapid to very rapid permeability (loamy sand to sand) and the water table is shallow, or to soils containing sinkholes, severely fractured surfaces, and soils which would allow direct introduction to a aquifer. Persists in soil for up to one year, especially active on legumes. Do not compost treated plants as herbicide can persist through composting process. Overspray or drift to desirable plants should be avoided, as even minute quantities of the spray may cause severe injury.</p> |

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