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## OXEYE DAISY MANAGEMENT TIPS

Oxeye daisy, a member of the Sunflower family, is a short-lived perennial forb with shallow, branched rhizomes. Rosette leaves are spatula-shaped, while stem leaves are lanceolate-shaped and have coarsely toothed margins. Stem leaves decrease in size as you go upward along the stem. Flowers are one to two inches in diameter with white petals and a yellow center. There is one flower head per stem. Mature plants usually grow one to two feet tall. Reproduction is by seed and rhizomes. Large, healthy plants are reported to produce up to 26,000 seeds, with smaller plants producing a few thousand seeds. **Seeds can remain viable for up to 39 years.** Oxeye daisy displaces native vegetation, which decreases plant diversity and increases the amount of bare soil in an area. It decreases forage production for livestock on infested pastures and meadows and decreases the value of hay.



Management and control efforts should focus on reducing seed production and depleting root reserves. Control efforts must be planned for many consecutive years on the existing site in order to prevent seed formation/dispersal and to monitor for, and appropriately treat, any new plants that emerge from seeds or roots.

## Effective control measures for the management of oxeye daisy include:

- 1. Mechanical (hand pulling & mowing):** Diligent hand pulling or grubbing can provide control of very small infestations of oxeye daisy. Wear gloves when hand pulling. Hand pulling is not feasible on more established infestations. Mowing at the bud stage may reduce seed production. Mowing may improve herbicide contact with rosettes if done before an herbicide treatment.
- 2. Herbicide: Always follow directions on the label. The label is the law!** Calibrate your equipment to ensure that you are adding the proper amount of herbicide to your tank. The following herbicides are commonly used to control oxeye daisy. **Do NOT use these herbicides in lawns, turf or ornamental settings – read the label.** *For the most effective control, apply herbicides when plants are in the rosette stage up to the early bolting stage.*

### Mixing rates in small backpack or hand sprayers are as follows:

Milestone:	3/4 – 1.25 teaspoons herbicide to 1 gallon of water.
GrazonNext HL:	1 oz herbicide to 1 gallon of water.
*Opensight:	1/2 - 2/3 teaspoon herbicide to 1 gallon of water.
*Chaparral:	1/2 - 2/3 teaspoon herbicide to 1 gallon of water.
2,4-D Amine:	1 - 2 oz herbicide to 1 gallon of water.
DuraCor:	0.5 oz herbicide to 1 gallon of water.

### Rates in large sprayers are as follows:

Milestone:	4 - 7 oz herbicide per acre.
GrazonNext HL:	1 quart herbicide per acre.
*Opensight:	2.5 – 3.3 oz herbicide per acre.
*Chaparral:	2.5 – 3.3 oz herbicide per acre.
2,4-D Amine:	1 - 2 quarts herbicide per acre.
DuraCor:	12 oz herbicide per acre.

**NOTE:** Adding a surfactant to your tank mix may enhance the performance of your herbicide and is required for certain herbicides (read the label). Add 0.5 - 1 oz per gallon of water for backpack sprayers or 1 – 2 pints per 100 gallons for large sprayers.

**\* denotes that a surfactant is required for the herbicide to be effective**

- 3. Cultural (tilling & revegetation):** Repeated tilling may effectively control this plant, however, root fragments may be spread on tilling equipment. Plant competition prevents the invasion of oxeye daisy and increases the effectiveness of controlled applications; therefore, when revegetating a site, select desirable species that will be competitive and adapt to the site.
- 4. Grazing:** Repeated grazing with sheep or goats over a number of years may reduce oxeye daisy populations.
- 5. Integrated management:** Management of oxeye daisy is more effective when more than one strategy is used.

**Reference to commercial products or trade names does not imply discrimination or endorsement by the Gallatin County Weed District.**