

Buffalobur



Scientific Name:	<i>Solanum rostratum</i>
Weed Class:	C
Year Listed:	1988
Requirement:	Control Required
Other Names:	Kansas Thistle, Texas Thistle
Native To:	Mid-West U.S. & Mexico
Toxicity:	Toxic To Livestock

Why is it a noxious weed?

Buffalobur is generally considered a nuisance in its native range and is toxic to livestock. It is very aggressive in pastures and rangeland, competing with forage plants. Burs can get caught on sheep wool devaluing the wool.

How would I identify it?

General Description

This annual plant is spiny, hairy and around 1/2 to 3 feet tall. The entire plant, except the petals, is covered by straight yellow spines that are 1/8 to 1/2 inch long.

Flower Description

Flowers in clusters (racemes) of 3 to 15. Flowers are yellow, 5-lobed, flat and circular (rotate) and around 1 inch in diameter.

Leaf Description

The leaves are alternate, 2 to 6 inches long, irregularly cut into 5 to 7 lobes, and extremely prickly.



Stem Description

Upper stems are branching, upright, bushy, 1/2 to 3 feet long, and extremely prickly.

Fruit/Seed Description

Fruit is a berry.

Where does it grow?

Buffalobur is found in fields, over grazed pastures, yards, roadsides, waste areas, barn yards, and will grow in sandy soils, as well as dry hard soils to rich moist soils of cultivated fields.

How does it reproduce?

Buffalobur reproduces by seed.

How do I control Buffalobur?

The most effective way to manage weed infestations is to research, plan for, and use a combination of prevention and control methods specific to the problem weed. This approach is called **I**ntegrated **W**eed **M**anagement (IWM), which uses mechanical, cultural, biological, and chemical control methods that effectively treat the problem weed yet protect human health, habitat, water, and other natural resources.

IWM Control Method	Effectiveness of Control Method			Timing and Notes **
	Good	Fair	Poor	
Digging	G			Remove as much of root system as possible, properly dispose of removed plant debris in landfill; Do not compost.
Hand-Pulling		F		Often not effective due to breakage, allowing for re-growth from crown - remove as much of root system as possible. properly dispose of removed plant debris in landfill; Do not compost.
Mowing		F		May produce seed below mow height, repeat mowing will be required.
Tilling	G			Till to depth of three (3) inches. Then sow a cover crop.
Bark Mulch			P	Not effective as a sole control method.
Black Plastic	G			
Cover Crop		F		Not effective as a sole control method. First till or apply herbicide.
Native Plant Restoration			P	Not recommended. Not effective.
Soil Amendments		F		Not effective as a sole control method.
Managed Grazing			-	Toxic to livestock.
Weed-Feeding Insects			-	None.
Herbicides - (Examples*)		<i>Timing is Important! For most effective control, apply herbicides before plants bloom.</i>		
Aminopyralid	Milestone	G		Apply in both spring (May) and fall (October) to actively growing plants. Effective until plant is in bud stage. Do not spray while plant is in flower.
Glyphosate	Roundup; Aqua-Neat	G		Apply in both spring (May) and fall (October) to actively growing plants. Effective until plant is in bud stage. Do not spray while plant is in flower.
Triclopyr	Lilly Miller Brush Killer; Vastlan	G		Apply in both spring (May) and fall (October) to actively growing plants. Effective until plant is in bud stage. Do not spray while plant is in flower.

*Brand names are listed as examples only. Other products may contain the listed chemical. Clark County does not endorse any product or brand name. Always read and follow the herbicide label.

****Timing of control is critical!** Herbicide treatments are often not effective or appropriate when plants are in flower. If the weeds have produced seed, bag the plants and place in garbage, not compost. Regardless of control method chosen, multiple treatments may be needed each year. For more information on IWM, specific herbicides, and timing of control, please contact Vegetation Management:



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