



Utah County Public Works Weed Control Standard Procedure for Purple Loosestrife Treatment

1. Herbicide Treatment.

- a. Herbicide treatment should take place in late summer to fall when purple loosestrife is actively growing at or beyond the bloom stage of growth. Herbicide treatments should take place before the first hard freeze of fall.
- b. Herbicide treatments are made with aquatic glyphosate (non-selective herbicide).
- c. Read herbicide label for application rate. Some herbicide labels have specific instructions for purple loosestrife.
- d. An aquatic surfactant additive is recommended to be added to the herbicide spray mixture.
- e. After herbicide application, allow the area treated to sit undisturbed for a minimum of two weeks.
- f. There are various other herbicides that can be used to treat purple loosestrife, but are not used by Utah County Weed Control.

Note: The information contained herein represents the standard procedures only for treatment of noxious weeds for Utah County. Utah County does not warrant the procedures contained herein. All legal responsibility for herbicide application is the responsibility of the applicator. If you apply an herbicide, make sure you are not violating any laws and/or restriction specified on the label. If applications are in or around water, verify the herbicide carries an aquatic label. If you have any questions regarding treatment of noxious weeds, please contact your local county public works office or Utah State University Extension office.

2. Alternatives or Additional Treatments

- a. Hand Pulling
 - i. Pull before seed head develops
 - ii. When pulling, try to pull as much of root system as possible; any roots remaining may later grow into full size plant
 - iii. Prevents seed production that will produce future plants
 1. One Purple Loosestrife plant can produce over two million seeds a year
- b. Biological Control
 - i. Biological agents for Purple Loosestrife in Utah:
 1. *Galerucella californiensis* (defoliating beetle)
 2. *Hylobius transversovittatus* (root weevil)
 3. *Nanophyes marmoratus* (seed head weevil)
 - ii. Useful for hard to reach areas
 - iii. Helps control or contain infestations

Note: An intergraded control effort of more than one treatment type is recommended for purple loosestrife control. While biological control is a great tool to combat an infestation, Utah County advises that, if possible, biological control agents be used as an additional tool to help with control efforts of an infestation rather than being the primary or only treatment.



3. Repeat Control Efforts

Complete control is not expected in one year's time. For control/eradication of an infestation, it will take years of consecutive monitoring and treatments. In general, you should have a decrease of Purple Loosestrife every year of treatment, and over time you might accomplish your goal.

* For additional information on addressing invasive species on state lands adjacent to private property see Utah's Division of Forestry, Fire and State Land's (FFSL) [Guidelines for Invasive Species Removal on Utah Lake](#) and then contact Ben Stireman with FFSL at 385.228.6501 or bstireman@utah.gov for additional information and for the required permitting. All treatment activities on state lands must be preauthorized by the Division.

