

Weed & Pest Happenings

Brought to you by Laramie County Weed and Pest

April · May · June · 2024

Volume 7 Number 2

W-a-t-c-h O-u-t!

Yes, Watch Out for new invasive species! An Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) is the best way to get the upper hand on new invasive species before they spread throughout the entire county and become another bad problem to try to get rid of.

What are these potential invasive species trying to creep into our county you ask?

First, there is a species of non-native grass known as Ventenata Grass (*Ventenata dubia* (Leers) Coss.). Ventenata is a winter annual cool season grass. It originated in Eurasia and North Africa. It usually grows 1-2 feet tall. It reproduces from its seeds.

Ventenata is an aggressive grass that spreads rapidly and it is difficult to control. It can be found in waste places, croplands, and disturbed sites. It is beginning to replace perennial grasses along roadsides, in hay fields, pastures, and CRP fields. With its shallow root system, it can cause soil erosion.

Being unpalatable for most of the growing season it has little to no forage value for livestock and no value for wildlife at any time.

Control of Ventenata is difficult at best. The label

for Rejuvra (indaziflam) has Ventenata listed as a grass that it will control. Fire or burning shows no promise as a control method. Some warn it is possibly resistant to glyphosate therefore do not use it.

Another bad invasive species is Palmer Amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri* S. Watson) from the pigweed family. Do not confuse it with the redroot pigweed.

It is an annual weed that flowers from July to October and can grow to be 1 to 6 feet tall. It is fast-growing and highly competitive. It can be toxic to livestock due to the presence of nitrates in the leaves.

Palmer Amaranth is a prolific seed producer with at least 100,000 seeds on each plant that are highly competitive to crops and are herbicide resistant making it difficult to control. It is a formidable foe, and the threat should be taken seriously. Be proactive!

Call us (307) 245-3213 to have your weeds identified and a control program created. Remember we have cost share available.

And, then there is that “cute” little bunny who thinks your garden is a delicious place to hang out!

Board meetings @ 6:30p.m.

April 4, 2024 @ Archer

May 9, 2024 @ Archer

June 6, 2024 @ Pine Bluffs

The public is invited to attend.

OFFICES CLOSED:

May 27, 2024, Memorial Day

June 19, 2024, Emancipation Day



Contact Us

Main Office ~ Pine Bluffs, WY • (307) 245-3213 • Monday-Friday: 8am to Noon and 1pm to 5pm

Archer Store ~ Cheyenne, WY • (307) 634-5348 • Monday-Friday: 8:30am to 4:30pm

Email: larcoweed@rtconnect.net • Website: <https://www.laramiecountyweedandpest.com>