

**UF** UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

## Pasture Weed Control Following a Wet and Warm Fall

Brent Sellers

**UF** IFAS Extension  
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

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**Outline**

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- Weather in 2015
- Know your weeds
- Forage Tolerance
- Control weeds or fertilize first?
- Key spring weeds
- Optimizing control
- Spring-time smutgrass control
  - Broadcast
  - Wiper

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## Summary of Rainfall – 2015

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Month	1942 to 2015		2015		Difference from 74-year average
	Maximum / month	Minimum / month	74-year average†	Total	
-----inches-----					
January	8.45	0.03	2.10	1.62	-0.48
February	9.59	0.02	2.49	3.50	1.01
March	12.34	0.13	3.06	1.13	-1.93
April	11.91	0.00	2.47	3.87	1.40
May	10.58	0.00	3.70	1.71	-1.99
June	18.99	2.79	8.58	9.08	0.50
July	19.74	1.87	8.33	8.18	-0.15
August	16.10	3.13	8.43	15.09	6.66
September	20.11	1.14	7.33	4.54	-2.79
October	11.23	0.00	2.93	1.71	-1.22
November	11.22	0.07	1.88	1.20	-0.68
December	8.61	0.07	1.94	2.15	0.21
<b>Year total</b>			<b>53.31</b>	<b>53.78</b>	<b>0.47</b>

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## Summary of Average Temps – 2015



Month	1944-2015	2015	1944-2015	2015
	Avg. high	Avg. high	Extreme high	Extreme high
January	73.2	73.2	90.0	1982 84.2
February	75.1	71.7	91.0	1962 83.6
March	79.1	83.3	94.0	1946 87.9
April	83.5	86.9	97.0	1945 90.6
May	88.1	89.5	103.0	1945 95.4
June	90.1	90.8	103.0	1945 95.9
July	90.8	90.2	101.0	1972 95.1
August	91.1	91.4	98.0	several 97.3
September	89.5	90.1	96.2	several 95.8
October	85.0	89.1	96.5	2015 96.5
November	79.2	84.5	94.0	1990 93.4
December	74.5	82.0	89.0	1945 88.1
Average	83.2	85.2		

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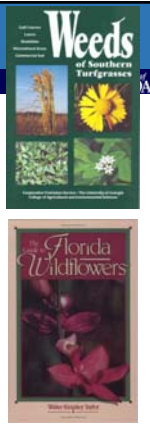
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## Weed Identification/Scouting



- Helps you choose the correct product(s)
- Save \$\$
- Sources:
  - Weed ID books
  - Websites (uflweed.com)
  - Extension agents and specialists
- Sending pictures
  - Highest quality possible
  - Several pictures of plant parts
  - Where it is growing
  - Forage species

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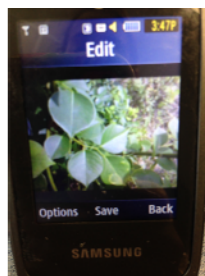
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## Sending Pictures




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### Sending Pictures

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### Forage Tolerance

- Bahiagrass
  - Tolerant to most except
    - Metsulfuron (Chaparral, Pastora)
    - Imazapic (Impose, Panoramic)
- Bermudagrass & stargrass
  - Tolerant.....but:
    - Can get injury under high temps and RH
    - Spring transition
- Limpograss
  - Can be sensitive
    - See **Table 5** in "Weed Management in Pastures and Rangeland"
    - See **Table 1** in "Weed Management in Limpograss"

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### Limpograss & Herbicides

Herbicide	Biomass (% of dicamba-treated limpograss)
Velpar 64 oz/A	15
Velpar 32 oz/A	45
Chaparral 3 oz/A	100
Pasturegard HL 24 oz/A	75
Metsulfuron 0.3 oz/A	100
GrazonNext HL 24 oz/A	80
WeedMaster 48 oz/A	85
2,4-D amine 64 oz/A	75

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## Limpograss/Floralta



- Time of year dependent
  - November to April
    - 3 to 4 pt/A 2,4-D
    - 3 pt/A WeedMaster
  - May to October
    - 2 pt/A Dicamba



2,4-D @ 4 pt



Dicamba @ 2 pt



WeedMaster @ 3 pt

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## Control Weeds or Fertilize First?



- Weeds also use available nutrients
- May make weeds more competitive than forage
- Best to treat weeds first, then fertilize
  - Liquid fertilizer with herbicides usually ok
    - Check herbicide labels
    - Perform compatibility test

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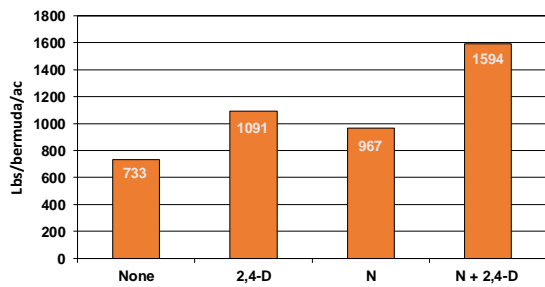
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## Bermudagrass, Ragweed and Nitrogen



John Boyd, U of Arkansas

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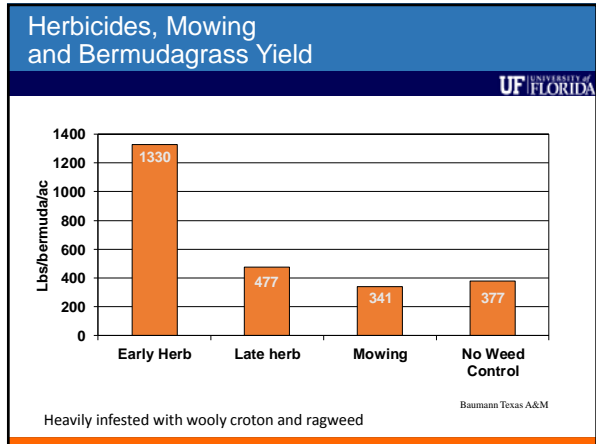
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### Thistle Control

- Biennial species
- Two species are most numerous
  - Nuttall's thistle
  - Horrible/purple thistle
- Control is always better when sprayed at the rosette growth stage



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### Thistle Growth Stages



Rosette

Bolting

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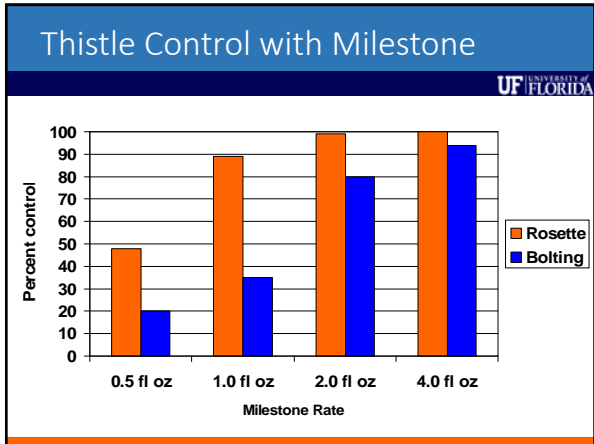
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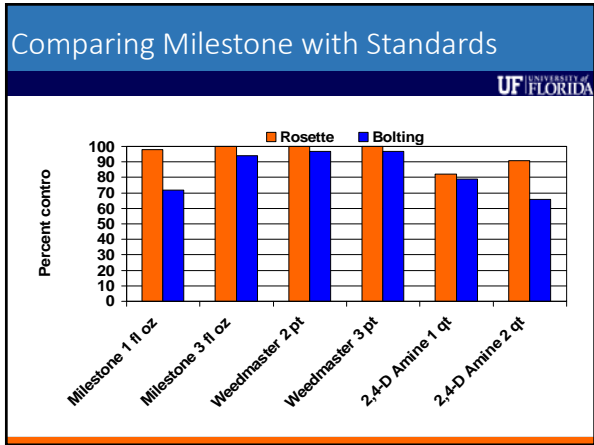
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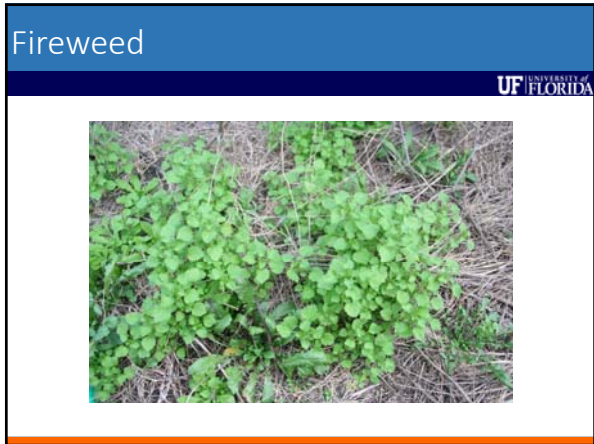
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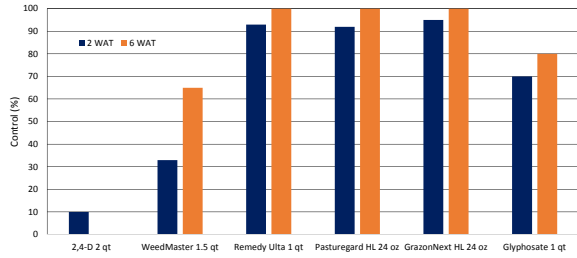
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## Fireweed




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## Flattop Goldenrod




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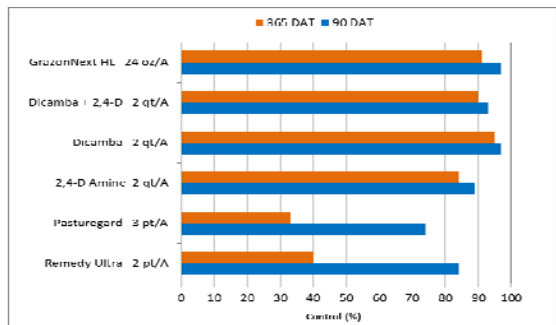
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## Flattop Control – Spring Application




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### Goatweed

- Bahiagrass
  - 2,4-D @ 4 pt
  - GrazonNext HL @ 24 oz + 2,4-D @ 3 pt
- Bermuda/star/limpo
  - Metsulfuron @ 0.3 -0.4 oz
  - Chaparral @ 3 oz

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### TSA



- Broadcast: All forage grasses
  - Milestone 5 to 7 fl oz/acre (limpograss)
  - Grazonnext HL 1.5 to 2.1 pints/acre
    - Apply anytime during the year except when frost is likely (January through February)
    - Plants must be actively growing after frost events
    - Use in limpograss ONLY during November – April
  - Chaparral 2 – 3 oz/acre (limpograss, bermudagrass, stargrass)
- Spot spraying: All forage grasses
  - 0.11% v/v Milestone solution (3 tsp/gallon; 1 oz/5 gallons)
  - 1 oz/gallon for Grazonnext HL
  - Spray the entire plant

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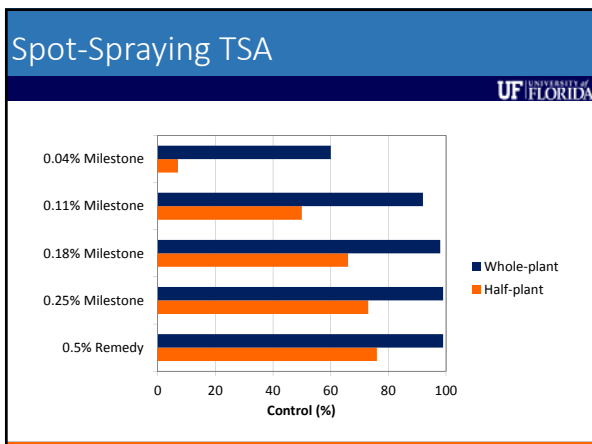
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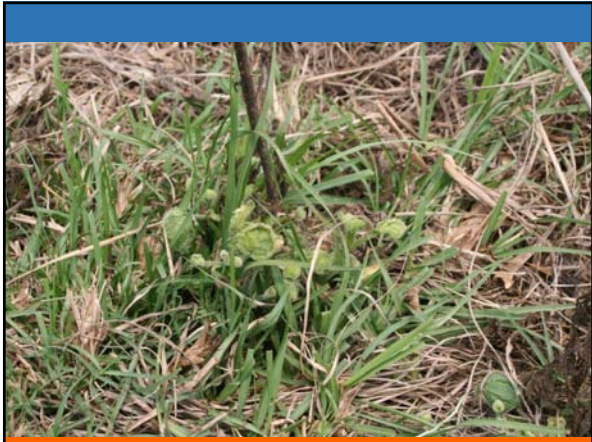
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What do you Apply Here?



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Dogfennel <36" (Bahia, Bermuda, Star)



- 4 pt/A 2,4-D
- 3 pt/A WeedMaster
- 1 pt/A Pasturegard HL



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Dogfennel >36" (Bahia, Bermuda, Star)



- 4 pt/A WeedMaster
- 1.5 pt/A Pasturegard HL



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Dogfennel >36" after 2,4-D @ 2 QT



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Dogfennel >36" (Limpo/Floralta)



- 2 pt/A dicamba (ugh)
- 1 to 1.5 pt/A Pasturegard (must be willing to accept injury)



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## Springtime Smutgrass Control



- Broadcast hexazinone
  - Smutgrass dormancy
  - Need rainfall
    - ~ ½ to 1 inch within 2 weeks of application
    - > 2 inches = reduced activity
- Wipers
  - Glyphosate – 10% solution
  - Wipe two directions for best activity



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## Using a Wiper



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I Want to Keep My (insert legume)

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- Extremely difficult
- Timing of application may be key
- Early spring applications Pasturegard or Remedy
  - Aeschynomene
  - Hairy indigo
  - Tropical legumes (phaseybean, carpon, vigna)
- Mid-summer applications Pasturegard
  - White clover (somewhat tolerant to Velpar)
- Perennial Peanut?

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FYI

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- Email: [sellersb@ufl.edu](mailto:sellersb@ufl.edu)
- Website: [uflweed.com](http://uflweed.com)

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