

Toxic Weed ID Booklet

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Black Cherry

Prunus serotina

Description

Medium-sized tree.

- Dark Smooth Bark.
- · Fruits are black, shiny, juicy.
- Leaves are alternate.
 - * 2 ½ 5 in. long
 - *1 2 in. wide

Commonplace in fencerows and edges of pastures.

Animals Affected

- Ruminants (cattle, sheep, goats, etc.) more commonly affected.
- Horses and other single-stomach animals can also be affected.

Signs

- Difficulty breathing.
- Anxious/staggering, collapse, and convulsions before death.
- Animals may show signs within 15-30 minutes after consuming and

may die within one hour.

 Mucous membranes and the blood are bright "cherry" red in color.





Chemical	Application Type	Rating
Triclopyr 4	Basal	G
Triclopyr 3A	Cut Stump	G
Pathfinder	Cut Stump	G
Banvel/Vanquish	Cut Stump	G
Krenite	Foliage	F
Roundup/Accord	Foliage	F
Escort	Foliage	G
Triclopyr 4	Foliage	G
Triclopyr 3A	Foliage	G
2,4-D	POST	E
Grazon Next	POST	E
Hexazinone Velpar	POST	E
PastureGuard	POST	G
Redeem	POST	F
Surmount	POST	G
Triclopyr Remedy	POST	E
Weedmaster	POST	E
Glyphosate	POST	E

Black Locust

Robinia pseudoacacia

Description

- Medium-sized tree.
 - * Deeply furrowed, thick bark.
 - Paired thorns at the base of each compound leaf.
 - * Eaves are alternate, pinnately compound.
- Flowers are showy, white, very fragrant and droop.
- Commonplace in fencerows and edges of pastures.

Animals Affected

- Affects horses, cattle, sheep, poultry, and humans.
 - * Horses are the most susceptible.
 - Are goats susceptible? Not as many cases but can still be.

- Depression, loss of appetite, weakness, dilated pupils.
- Posterior paralysis, irregular pulse, difficulty breathing, and bloody diarrhea.





Chemical	Application Type	Rating
Hyvar	Soil	F
Spike	Soil	G
Velpar	Soil	G
Triclopyr 4	Basal	F
Roundup/Accord	Foliage	F
Banvel/Vanquish	Foliage	F
Hyvar	Foliage	F
Krenite	Foliage	G
Roundup/Accord	Foliage	G
Tansline	Foliage	G
Escort	Foliage	G
Triclopyr 4	Foliage	G
Triclopyr 3A	Foliage	G
Glyphosate	POST	E

Brackenfern

Pteridium aquilinum

Description

- Coarse perennial fern to 3ft tall.
 - * Older fronds leathery, triangular.
 - * Rhizomatous.
- Common in old fields, waste places, open woods, roadsides, and particularly on relatively dry sites.

Animals Affected

- Affects all forage-fed livestock.
 - * Horses are the most susceptible.
 - Are goats susceptible? Not as many cases but can still be.

- Monogastrics lack coordination, often standing with legs spread apart as if bracing.
- · Arched back and neck.
- Fever is present up to 104° F.
- Before death, horses may "head press" against objects and have spasms.
- · Cattle may exhibit stages of signs.
- Laryngeal stage
 - * Difficult and loud breathing.
 - * More typical in younger animals.
- The enteric stage
 - Bloody feces/urine and excessive bleeding from fly bites.
- The blood is slow to clot since platelets are deficient.
- Sheep and goats may show blindness due to degeneration of the retinal epithelial cells.
 - Sheep and goats tens to avoid brackenfern more.





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Chemical	Application Type	Rating
Cimarron Max	POST	G
Crossbow	POST	G
Dicamba (Banvel, Clarity)	POST	G
Grazon P+D	POST	F
Hexazinone Velpar	POST	F
Metsulfuron	POST	G
Milestone	POST	G
Imazamox Raptor	POST	F
Metribuzin Sencor	POST	G
Glyphosate	POST	E

Buttercup

Ranunculus spp.

Description

- · Low annual or perennial.
- Stem leaves alternate, simple, lobed or divided.
- Flowers usually with five glossy yellow petals (hence name).
- · Occurs throughout the South.
 - Common in old fields, waste places, open woods, roadsides, and particularly in relatively wet areas (near creeks, clayey soils).

Animals Affected

- All livestock are affected.
- Plant is very unpalatable and typically avoided by livestock unless forage/feed is limited.

- Abdominal pain, severe diarrhea, convulsions, and death.
- Milk from affected cows will be bitter and may be reddish in color.





Chemical	Application Type	Rating
2,4-D	POST	E
2,4-DB	POST	F
Chaparral	POST	G-E
Cimarron Max	POST	E
Cimarron Plus	POST	E
Crossbow	POST	E
Grazon Next	POST	E
Grazon P+D	POST	E
Hexazinone Velpar	POST	G
Metribuzin Sencor	POST	G
Metsulfuron	POST	E
Milestone	POST	G-E
Paraquat	POST	G
Glyphosate	POST	E

Castor Bean

Ricinus communis

Description

- Large woody annual (in the south), or perennial (in the tropics).
 - Leaves alternate, up to 16" long, palmately lobed, serrated with glandtipped teeth.
 - Seeds (3/capsule) are shiny, mottled brown, resembling a tick.
- Cultivated ornamental throughout the South, occasionally escaping.
 - * Planted as mole repellant.

Animals Affected

 Horses and monogastrics (particularly hogs) are the most susceptible to poisoning, but all livestock and humans can be affected.

Photo Credit: Tony Pernas UGA1499043

- Depending upon the amount consumed, signs appear several hours to days after consuming toxin.
- Violent purgation (straining and bloody diarrhea).
- Abdominal pain, weakness, trembling, and lack of coordination.



Herbicide recommendations from UC Davis

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Chemical	Application Type	Rating
2,4-D	POST	G
Dicamba (Banvel, Clarity)	POST	G
Triclopyr Remedy	POST	G
Triclopyr 4	Foliage	G
Triclopyr 3A	Foliage	G
Pathfinder	Cut Stump	G
Glyphosate	POST	E

Chinaberry

Melia azedarach

Description

- Small to medium-sized tree.
 - Leaves alternate, deciduous, bipinnately compound.
 - * Leaflets deeply toothed at margins.
 - * Fruit one-seeded, greenish yellow to yellow-tan, ½" in dimeter.
- Found throughout the South, but rare in the northern areas.
 - * Once an ornamental but widely escaped.
 - Found along roadsides and fence rows, in waste places, and around buildings.

Animals Affected

- Swine and sheep are most often affected.
 - Toxicity may occur after consumption of more then 0.5% of body weight.
- Goats, poultry, and cattle can be poisoned, but larger amounts are required.

Photo Credit: Chris Evans UGA1380474

Signs

 Stomach irritation, vomiting, bloody diarrhea, paralysis, irregular breathing, and respiratory distress.



Chemical	Application Type	Rating
Spike	Soil	G
Triclopyr 4	Basal	G
Triclopyr 3A	Cut Stump	G
Banvel/Vanquish	Foliage	F
Triclopyr 4	Foliage	G
Triclopyr 3A	Foliage	G
Glyphosate	POST	E

Cocklebur

Xanthium strumarium

Description

- Coarse, branching annual weed, 1-3 feet.
 - Leaves alternate, simple, coarsely pubescent, shallowly lobed.
 - Fruit broadly cylindrical, spiny bur,
 ½ 1" long.
- Found throughout the South.
- Most abundant in fertile soil gardens, fields, roadsides, etc. in full sunlight.

Animals Affected

- Swine are the animals most commonly poisoned.
 - * They root up and ingest the two-leaf stage of the plant in the springtime.
- Chickens are other livestock have also been poisoned but are less likely to consume more potent plant parts.

- Vomiting and gastrointestinal irritation with occasional diarrhea.
- Large amounts often cause nervous signs, including spasmodic running movements and convulsions.





Herbicide recommendations from UC Davis and Michigan State

Chemical	Application Type	Rating
2,4-D	POST	G
Milestone	POST	G
Dicamba (Banvel, Clarity)	POST	G
Triclopyr Remedy	POST	G
Cimarron Plus	POST	E
Crossbow	POST	E
Stinger	POST	E
Metsulfuron	POST	G
Glyphosate	POST	E

Dallisgrass Ergot

Claviceps paspali on Paspalum dilatatum

Description

- Found on dallisgrass seedheads.
 - * Warm season perennial grass, that grows in loose bunch.
 - * Seed head had 3-6 spikes arising from different points long stem. The spikes often droop.
- Fungal mass (ergot body) grows in place of a seed.
- Begins as a tan/orange, round mass and becomes black and shrunken.

Animals Affected

· All grazing animals.

- May occur as early as 3 days after introduction to an infected forage.
- "Staggers," or lack of coordination, trembling, progressing to struggling to walk or causing the animal to get down and be unable to stand.
- Deaths are rare except in cases of injury associated with incoordination.





Herbicide recommendations from Texas A&M University

Chemical	Application Type	Rating
Plateau (imazapic)	POST	F
Weedmaster	POST	F
Glyphosate	POST	E

Ground Cherry

Physalis spp.

Description

- Annual or perennial herbs.
 - * Branched and spreading at the top.
 - Leaves alternate, simple, smooth margined or irregularly toothed.
 - * Funnel-shaped, yellowish flowers.
 - Fruit a globose yellow, red to purple berry surrounded by a papery sac.



Animals Affected

· All grazing animals are susceptible.

- Weakness, excess salivation, shortness of breath, trembling, progressive paralysis.
- Acute hemorrhagic gastroenteritis.
- · Collapse and death.



Chemical	Application	Rating
	Туре	
Krenite	Foliage	F
Roundup/Accord	Foliage	F
Escort	Foliage	G
Triclopyr 4	Foliage	G
Triclopyr 3A	Foliage	G
2,4-D	POST	E
Grazon Next	POST	E
Hexazinone Velpar	POST	E
PastureGuard	POST	G
Redeem	POST	F
Surmount	POST	G
Triclopyr Remedy	POST	E
Weedmaster	POST	E
Glyphosate	POST	E

Hemp Dogbane

Apocynum cannabinum

Description

- Perennial herb with milky juice.
 - * Leaves opposite, simple, margins not toothed.
 - * Flowers small, pink-tinged, bell shaped.
 - * Fruit of 2 long and slender pods with many silky-haired seeds.
- Frequently found in disturbed areas, roadsides, and field edges.

Animals Affected

All grazing animals are susceptible.

- Rapid pulse, dilation of pupils, weakness, convulsions, vomiting.
- Blue coloration of mucous membranes.
- Mild myocardial degeneration to cardiac arrest and death.
 - Death generally occurs within 6-12 hours of consumption.





Herbicide recommendations from Virginia Tech

Chemical	Application Type	Rating
Dicamba		
(Banvel, Clarity)	POST	F
Crossbow	POST	F
2,4-D	POST	F
Glyphosate	POST	E

Horsenettle

Solanum carolinense

Description

- Perennial, thorny weed ½ 1 ½ feet tall.
 - Leaves alternate, simple, irregularly pinnately lobed.
 - * Flowers white to purple, borne in terminal racemes.
 - Green fruit turn yellow, resembling a small tomato.
- Found throughout the South and common in pastures, and old fields.



All grazing animals are susceptible.

- Weakness, excess salivation, shortness of breath, trembling, progressive paralysis.
- Acute hemorrhagic gastroenteritis.
- · Collapse and death.





Chemical	Application Type	Rating
Chaparral	POST	G-E
Cimarron Max	POST	F
Dicamba (Banvel, Clarity)	POST	G
Grazon Next	POST	E
Grazon P+D	POST	G-E
Milestone	POST	E
Redeem	POST	F
Spike	POST	F
Surmount	POST	E
Weedmaster	POST	F
Glyphosate	POST	E

Jimsonweed

Datura stramonium

Description

- Coarse, foul-smelling, annual, ½ 2 feet tall, with purple-tinged stems.
 - Leaves alternate, coarsely and irregularly toothed.
 - * Large, white to lavender, flowers.
 - Fruit is spiny capsule with many black, shiny seeds.
- Distributed throughout the South; most abundant in fertile fields, gardens, and barn

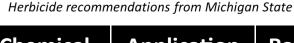
Animals Affected

- All livestock are susceptible to the toxins.
 - Cattle and swine are most commonly affected.

Photo Credit: Chris Evans UGA2124075

Signs

• Weak rapid pulse and heartbeat, dilated pupils, dry mouth, incoordination, convulsions, coma.





Chemical	Application Type	Rating
Dicamba		
(Banvel, Clarity)	POST	G
2,4-D	POST	F
Stinger	POST	G
Grazon Next	POST	F
Glyphosate	POST	E

Johnsongrass

Sorghum halepense

Description

- Coarse perennial grass up to 8 feet tall.
 - Leaves may be up to 3 feet long and 2 inches wide.
 - Panicle often brown to purplish, that can be as broad as up to 18 inches wide.
- Found throughout the South, especially in old fields, waste places, and fence rows.

Animals Affected

- Ruminants (cattle, sheep, goats, etc.) more commonly affected.
- Horses and other single-stomach animals can also be affected.

- · Difficulty breathing.
- Anxious/staggering, collapse, and convulsions before death.
- Animals may show signs within 15-30 minutes after consuming and may die within the hour.
- Mucous membranes and the blood are bright red in color.





Chemical	Application Type	Rating
Benefin Balan	PPI	G1
EPTC (Eptam)	PPI	G1
Prowl	PRE	G1
Imazamox Raptor	POST	F
lazapic Impose	POST	F-G
Pastora	POST	G-E
Sethoxydim Poast	POST	G
Glyphosate	POST	E

Milkweed

Asclepias spp.

Description

- Erect summer perennial weed.
 - Milky sap from stems and roots.
 - Leaves are simple and opposite, whorled or alternate.
- Photo Credit: John Ruter
- * Flowers are in dense, showy umbels (various colors).
- * Fruit is an elongated follicle splitting on one side, that releases many seeds topped with white, silky hairs.
- Found throughout the South in old fields, and along roadsides and fence rows.

Animals Affected

· All animals are susceptible.

Signs

• Staggering, convulsions, bloating, labored breathing, dilated pupils, rapid and weak pulse, coma, death.



Herbicide recommendations from UC Davis

Chemical	Application Type	Rating
Dicamba (Banvel, Clarity)	POST	F
Glyphosate	POST	E

Oleander

Nerium oleander

Description

- Ornamental shrub, 4-30 feet tall.
 - Leaves opposite or whorled, evergreen, and leathery.
 - Flowers are showy (various colors) in large terminal clusters.
- Found in Costal Plain from Florida to Louisiana, particularly near coast and escaping along roadsides, edges of woods, and fence rows.

Animals Affected

· All animals are susceptible.

Signs

Severe gastroenteritis, vomiting, diarrhea, increased pulse rate, weakness, death.



Chemical	Application Type	Rating
Glyphosate	POST	E



Perilla Mint

Perilla frutescens

Description

- Annual herb, ½ 2 feet tall.
 - Stems are four-sided and freely branched.
 - Leaves are opposite, purple or green, ovate, coarsely serrate, with a strong pungent order when crushed.
 - * Flowers are small, white to purple, in terminal panicles.
- Found throughout the South, mostly in pastures and fields, along roadsides, and old home sites.

Animals Affected

- Most often affects cattle and horses. Can affect other grazing livestock.
 - * May cause birth defects in calves when hay containing perilla mint is fed to cows early in gestation.

- Occur 2-10 days after exposure.
- Labored breathing, lowered head, reluctance to move, death on exertion.
 - Pulmonary emphysema (restrictions) and edema (fluid buildup)



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Photo Credit: Chris I	Evans 5476740	6

Chemical	Application Type	Rating
Crossbow	POST	F-G
Dicamba (Banvel, Clarity)	POST	F-G
Grazon P+D	POST	F-G
PastureGuard	POST	F
Surmount	POST	F
Triclopyr Remedy	POST	F-G
Weedmaster	POST	F-G
Glyphosate	POST	E

Poison Hemlock

Conium maculatum

Description

- Highly branched biennial herb, up to 7 feet tall, with hollow spotted stems.
 - Leaves resemble parsley and have a parsnip odor when crushed.
 - * Flowers are white, in umbles.
- Found throughout the South, typically in damp waste areas.

Animals Affected

- All animals are susceptible.
 - * Famous for its use in ancient Greece to poison condemned prisoners, including Socrates.
 - Children are sometimes poisoned when using the hollow stems as "pea-shooters."

- Dilated pupils, weakness, staggering gait, slow pulse progressing to rapid.
- Trembling and jerking motions are followed by convulsions.
- Slow, irregular breathing, and death from respiratory failure.
- Chronic ingestion may lead to abnormal fetal development.



Herbicide recommendations from Missouri State

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Photo Credit: John Byrd UGA139147	71	JGA13914	Byrd	redit: Joh	Photó (

Chemical	Application Type	Rating
Dicamba (Banvel, Clarity)	POST	G
,,		_
2,4-D	POST	G
Triclopyr Remedy	POST	G
Glyphosate	POST	E

Pokeweed

Phytolacca americana

Description

- Perennial herb, up to 9 feet tall.
 - * Stems green to red/purple, fleshy, smooth.
 - * Leaves alternate, light green, lanceolate.
 - * Flowers white to purplish in drooping racemes.
 - * Ripe fruit black, juicy, that stains.
- Distributed throughout the South. Most common on waster ground, fence rows, pastures, and old home sites.

Animal Affected

• Pigs, cattle, sheep, horses, and humans.

- Vomiting, abdominal pain, bloody diarrhea, breakdown of red blood cells, drop in milk production.
- Convulsions, death from respiratory failure.
 - Post-mortem often reveals ulcerative gastritis, mucosal hemorrhage, dark liver.
- Most animals recover within 24-48 hours after removing threat.





Chemical	Application Type	Rating
2,4-D	POST	G
2,4-DB	POST	G
Crossbow	POST	G
Dicamba (Banvel, Clarity)	POST	G
Grazon Next	POST	G
Grazon P+D	POST	F
Milestone	POST	F
Surmount	POST	G
Weedmaster	POST	G
Glyphosate	POST	E

Rhododendrons & Azaleas

Rhododendron spp.

Description

- Shrub or densely branched small tree 3-10 feet tall.
 - Leaves are alternate, leathery, evergreen (some azaleas are deciduous), lanceolate to elliptic.
 - * Flowers are showy, white, red, pink, or purple in terminal clusters.
- Naturally found in the Appalachian mountains, but used as ornamentals throughout the South.

Animals Affected

- Ruminants (cattle, sheep, goats, etc.) more commonly affected.
- Horses and other single-stomach animals can also be affected, but are less likely to graze these plants.

- Bloating, salivation, vomiting, and abdominal pain as evidenced by straining.
- Eventually the animals grow weak, stagger, and become prostrate.





Chemical	Application Type	Rating
Triclopyr Remedy	POST	G
Glyphosate	POST	E

Sesbania

Sesbania spp.

Description

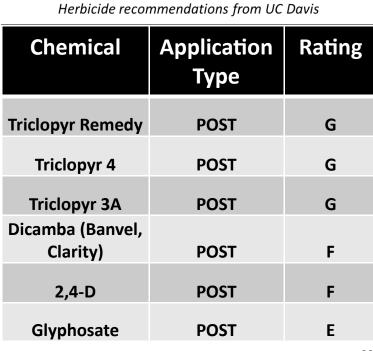
- Annual legume, 2-7 feet tall.
 - * Stem is often woody at base.
 - Leaves are pinnately compound and alternate.
 - * Flowers yellow, often streaked with purple, in 206 clusters.
 - * Pods are linear and contain 30-40 seeds that break free when mature and dry.
- Found mostly in Coastal Plain from Virginia to Florida to Texas, most abundant alongside ditches/stream banks.



All animals are believed to be susceptible.

- Variable but include rapid pulse, weak respiration, stiff gait, walk with arched back, diarrhea, death.
 - * Progression of signs may be a matter of hours.
- Affected animals are often found dead. Post mortem may reveal seeds in the rumen and a hemorrhagic inflammation of the abomasum and intestines.







Sicklepod

Senna obtusifolia

Description

- Coarse annual weed 1-2 feet tall.
 - Leaves alternate, pinnately compound with 4-6 obovate leaflets.
 - * Yellow flowers.
 - Sickle-shaped pods, split along two lines, 4-8" long.
- Found throughout the South, but most abundant in cultivated fields, roadsides, waste places, and open pinelands.

Animals Affected

- All forage fed livestock are susceptible to the toxins.
- Consumption of sicklepod is rare in a pasture, unless forage is restricted.
 - Risky contaminant in silage and hay crops, particularly from annual pastures.

- Diarrhea is usually the first symptom.
- Later, the animals go off feed, appear lethargic, but have no fever.
- Muscle degeneration causes tremors and eventually the animals' urine becomes dark and coffee colored.
- Animal becomes too weak to stand.
- Death often occurs within 12 hours after the animal goes down.



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Chemical	Application Type	Rating	
EPTC (Eptam)	PPI	F	
2,4-D	POST	F	
2,4-DB	POST	F	
Chaparral	POST	G	
Cimarron Max	POST	G	
Cimarron Plus	POST	G	
Crossbow	POST	E	
Dicamba (Banvel, Clarity)	POST	E	
Grazon Next	POST	E	
Grazon P+D	POST	E	
lazapic Impose	POST	G	
Metribuzin Sencor	POST	F	
Metsulfuron	POST	F	
Paraquat	POST	F-G	
Pastora	POST	E	
PastureGuard	POST	G	
Redeem	POST	G	
Surmount	POST	E	
Triclopyr Remedy	POST	E	
Weedmaster	POST	E	
Glyphosate	POST	E	

Sneezeweed

Helenium spp.

Description

- Annual or perennial herb, usually 1-3 feet tall.
 - * Leaves are narrow, alternate, simple.
 - * Flowers are yellow and borne on heads.
- Found throughout the South in pastures, roadsides, and bogs.
- Species vary with location.
 - Autumn sneezeweed is more common in Piedmont/ Mountains
 - Bitter sneezeweed is more common in the South Piedmont and Coastal Plain.



Animals Affected

- All livestock can be affected.
 - * Sheep tend to be more commonly affected.
 - * Cattle may require more to be affected.

Signs

- Severe irritation of the mucous membranes.
- Dullness, trembling, restlessness, stiff gait, salvation, and weakness are the first symptoms.
- Severe vomiting, hence the name "spewing sickness."

* Vomiting animals may inhale part of the regurgitated material into the trachea and develop inhalation pneumonia.

Herbicide recommendations from NC State and University of Tennessee



Chemical	Application Type	Rating
2,4-D	POST	E
Grazon Next	POST	E
Grazon P+D	POST	E
Milestone	POST	E
Weedmaster	POST	E
Glyphosate	POST	E

UGA Resources

Here are some valuable resources offered through the University of Georgia Extension Service. You are also welcome to contact your local county extension office with any questions.

Extension Weed Science Page:

http://extension.uga.edu/topic-areas/weeds-diseases-pests/weeds.html

Extension Forages Page:

http://georgiaforages.caes.uga.edu/

Integreted Pest Management and Pest Handbook:

http://extension.uga.edu/programs-services/integrated-pest-management/publications/handbooks.html

Extension Calendar:

http://extension.uga.edu/calendar.html

Always make sure to follow directions per the pesticide label located on the bottle





UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

EXTENSION

UPSON & LAMAR COUNTIES

If you have any questions, contact your local County Extension Office:

Upson (706)647-8989 Lamar (770)358-5163

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