

2007 - Summit County  
Goat Grazing  
Biological Weed  
Control Results



Cooperators:  
Willoughby Boer Goats,  
Coalville Utah  
Park City Mountain Resort,  
Park City Utah



Conducted by:  
Sterling Banks,  
Utah State University Extension Service  
Summit County

Demonstration Site Location:

Park City Utah

Treatment Dates:

Herbicide Application 6/6/07

1<sup>st</sup> grazing - 6/5/07  
2<sup>nd</sup> grazing - 6/29/07

Plot and Layout

4 acres total  
1 acre treatment plots

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Control	Herbicide Treatment: Milestone: ai (Aminopyralid) Rates: 5 fl.oz/ac	Once Grazed Treatment	Twice Grazed Treatment
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Weeds treated in Plot Area

Musk Thistle

Spotted Knapweed

Russian Knapweed

Dalmation Toadflax

## Results

Observation Date: 7/19/07

### Herbicide Treatment

a -Musk Thistle: 90-95% control

b -Russian/Spotted Knapweed - 90 % control

c -Dalmation Toadflax - 10% control (weeds only turned yellow)

a



b



c



## Grazing Results:

Observation Date: 6/29/07

1x Grazing

**Musk Thistle** - 50% of rosettes/ bolted plants grazed

**Russian/Spotted Knapweeds** - 90% grazed down to crowns

**Dalmation Toadflax** - little signs of grazing effect on plants



Observation Date: 07/19/07

2x Grazing

**Musk Thistle** - 25% control, 50 - 75% bolted with seed heads formed. Remaining 25% grazed to rosette stage.

**Russian/Spotted Knapweed** - 90 % grazed down to crowns, six - eight inch regrowth occurred, no seed heads formed on regrowth.

**Dalmation toadflax** - 50% of the stems were stripped of leaves, plants appeared to be stressed.



## Conclusions

- Milestone herbicide is an effective weed control option for Thistle and Knapweed control.
- Grazing weed can be an effective weed control option; however, more than one year of grazing is required.
- Herding grazing goats is not as effective as penning grazing goats in electric fence pens to control weeds.
- Weeds need to be grazed at least twice during the growing season to reduce the seed source for the following year.
- Using a combination of grazing and herbicide treatments can be an effective weed control option especially in sensitive areas.
- Goats can prevent flowering of musk thistle using repeated grazing.
- Goats must graze knapweeds repeatedly (at least twice) during the growing season to prevent plants from producing seeds.

For further information contact:

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