

# Musk Thistle Management Action List

## L-308



Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service  
 139 Agricultural Hall  
 Oklahoma State University  
 Stillwater, OK 74078

## Herbicide Recommendations for Controlling Thistles

Herbicides Labeled <sup>a</sup>	Rate	Expense Level <sup>b</sup>	Recommendations for Controlling Invasive Thistles <sup>c</sup>		
			Fall - rosette	Spring - rosette	Spring - bolted
Pasture & Range					
2,4-D Amine	2 pt/A	\$	M	M	—
2,4-D Amine	3 pt/A	\$	M - B	M	—
Ally	3/10 oz/A	\$	—	S	—
Grazon P+D	2 pt/A	\$	M - B - S	M - B - S	M - B
Weedmaster	2 pt/A	\$	M - B - S	M - B - S	M - B
Ally + 2,4-D Amine	3/10 oz + 1 pt/A	\$	M	M	M
Ally + Grazon P+D	3/10 oz + 1 pt/A	\$	M	M	M - S
Ally + Weedmaster	3/10 oz + 1 pt/A	\$	M	M	M - S
Roadsides					
Escort	1 oz/A	\$\$\$\$	—	S	—
Transline	1/3 to 2/3 pt/A	\$\$\$\$	—	M	—
Vanquish	1 to 2 pt/A	\$\$\$\$	—	S	—

- a. 2,4-D, Ally, Grazon P+D, and Weedmaster are labeled for pastures and rangelands. Escort, Transline and Vanquish are labeled for non-cropland. Grazon P+D is a restricted use pesticide. Read labels for specific information and guidelines prior to using the product.
- b. Check your herbicide dealer for current prices.
- c. Control includes killing the actively growing plant and preventing it from producing seed. Best results are obtained with spring applications, so that fall and spring emerging seedlings are actively growing at the time of treatment. M = musk thistle, B = bull thistle and S = Scotch thistle.

For more information contact your local Cooperative Extension office or refer to the Oklahoma State University Extension Fact Sheet-7318.

Oklahoma State University, in compliance with Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive order 11246 as amended, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the federal laws and regulations, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, disability, or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices, or procedures. This includes but is not limited to admissions, employment, financial aid, and educational services.

Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Samuel E. Curl, Director of Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma. This publication is printed and issued by Oklahoma State University as authorized by the Dean of the Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources and has been prepared and distributed at the cost of \$883.49 for 2,500 copies. 0902 MHG #3062.












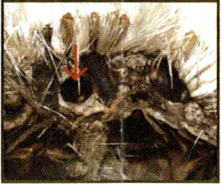






# Month

# Musk Thistle

# Weevil

January	Musk thistle head weevil overwinters in rosette.			Rosette weevil larval damage can be detected in thistle rosettes.	
February	Biennial musk thistles begin to emerge. These plants will not begin their reproductive growth (bolting) until next spring.				
March	Thistles that have overwintered begin their upright reproductive growth (bolting). Now is the time to control problem areas with herbicides.				
April					
May	Purple to red flowers indicate musk thistle is in full bloom.			Head and rosette weevil adults emerge and feed on thistles. Head weevils are laying eggs. Collect weevils now for redistribution in other fields.	
June				Head weevil larvae are feeding on the seeds in thistle heads.	
July	Musk thistle seeds are being dispersed by the wind.			Head weevil pupae and empty pupal chambers can be found in thistle heads. New adult head weevils have moved into the ground until spring. If at least half of the thistle heads in a field have four to six pupae/head, there will be enough adults to collect and redistribute in the spring.	
August					
September	Annual musk thistle begins to emerge. These plants will not flower until the spring.				
October				Rosette weevils are laying eggs on the thistle seedlings.	
November	Musk thistle overwinters as a rosette.				
December				Rosette weevils (eggs, larva, adults) and adult head weevils are hibernating until late February.	