

# VENTENATA

*Venenata dubia*



## CONTROL

### Hand Pulling

Hand pulling can be effective in very small infestations. Pull the plant when the soil is moist to allow this plant's shallow roots to come up. Hand pulling is not effective for anything larger than a backyard infestation (around 2 square yards).

### Mowing

Mowing can be an effective tool at controlling ventenata only if it occurs multiple times during the growing season. To prevent seeding, it is important to keep the plant as short as possible (< 2 inches) until there is no longer moisture in the soil. Mowing during heading is not recommended because the plant is wiry and will bend over and become entangled in mowing equipment. Mowing ventenata requires a low mow speed as well as sharp equipment.

### Biological control

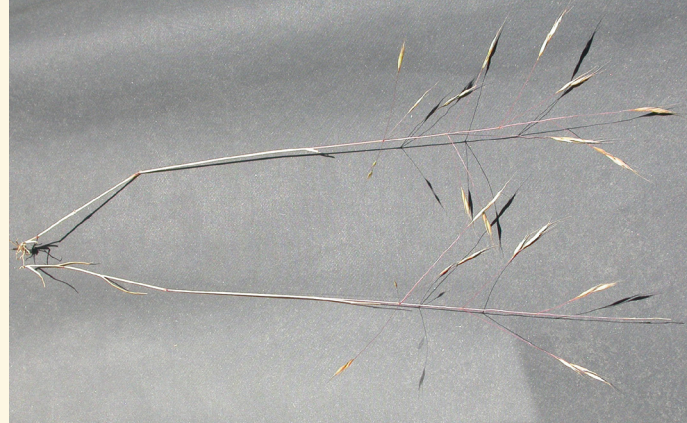
N/A

## Ideal Timing for Treatment Options

| Spring          | Summer | Fall   |
|-----------------|--------|--------|
| Hand pulling    |        |        |
| Mowing/Planting |        |        |
| Foliar          |        | Foliar |

### Herbicide

There are several herbicides that can be used to effectively control ventenata. Herbicides are most useful in conjunction with other control techniques. Application of fertilizer the following spring after herbicide application can assist with native perennial regrowth. Always consult product labels and read them carefully to ensure correct species/land management usage and chemical application.



## Ventenata Life Cycle

| Life Cycle         | Root                               | Leaves   | Stems  | Flower   | Seed/Fruit  |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| Cool Season Annual | Shallow, within 1-2 inches of soil | Narrow leaves that are folded or rolled lengthwise. Has long, membranous ligules (1-4 mm). | 6-18 inches in length with reddish black nodes. Stems are few bunched. | Open panicle that is pyramidal and light yellow with droopy branches. Spikelets have an average of 3 florets | Awns are long, up to 1 inch. Once mature, awns become twisted and bent. |

## Herbicides for Ventenata, *Ventenata dubia*

| Active Ingredient       | Rate   | Efficacy  | Comments  |
|-------------------------|--|---|---|
| Imazapic                | 5-6 oz/acre  | Apply in the fall after seedling emergence  | Some bare ground should be visible during application, as litter can reduce the effectiveness. Do not use in the spring, as it can damage perennial species. Has some soil residual activity. Can be used on pasture, range, and non-cropland.                              |
| Sulfosulfuron           | 0.75 oz/acre   | Apply in the fall after seedling emergence (1 inch of rain and a soil temperature above 45 degrees) | Wheatgrasses are recommended for revegetation the following spring, and other species should not be planted until the following fall or spring. If foxtail ( <i>Alopecurus pratensis</i> ) is present, it will be removed. Can be used on pasture, range, and non-cropland. |
| Flufenacet + metribuzin | 0.27-0.31 lb ai/acre flufenacet + 0.068-0.084 lb ai/acre metribuzin in established timothy hay | Apply pre-emergence or no later than two-leaf stage (in the fall)                                   | Application is to timothy hay which should not be grazed in the fall or cut lower than 3.5 inches following application. After application rain or irrigation is necessary.   |
| Indaziflam              | 3.5-7 oz/acre  | Apply pre-emergence in the fall   | Herbicides need to reach soil surface and be activated by rainfall or irrigation. Has minimal post-emergence activity on emerged weeds at time of application. Persists in soil for multiple years. Can be used in conjunction with other herbicides.                       |
| Rimsulfuron             | 2-4 oz/acre  | Apply pre-emergence or right after seedling emergence in the fall                                   | Add a nonionic surfactant at 1qt/100 gal spray for more effectiveness. Also controls some other annual grasses and broadleaf weeds. Application to irrigated perennial grasses can cause death. In cool climates it can have residual soil control.                         |
| Glyphosate              | 0.75 pt product/acre<br>0.42 lb/acre   | Apply in the fall post-emergence  | Glyphosate is non-selective and will kill any vegetation it comes in contact with. Fall application is best to prevent native die-off.  |

Information on diagnostic identifying characteristics adapted from "Montana's Noxious Weeds" by Pokorny and Mangold, Montana State University Extension Bulletin EB0159.