

# COMMON TANSY

Tanacetum vulgare



## CONTROL

### Hand Pulling

Hand pulling is only effective on small infestations if it successfully removes the rhizomes. Multiple treatments will be necessary in order to deplete the seed bank and eradicate the infestation. Make sure to bag and dispose of all flowering plants and root material. This is best if done from April to June.

### Mowing

Mowing is not an effective management tool for common tansy unless done before it has gone to seed, and as a precursor to another control method, such as herbicide. Plants will resprout and flower again in the same season as that mowed.

### Biological control

N/A

### Grazing

Sheep have been used in Montana to graze common tansy, and they are an effective method of removing above ground plant materials, thus reducing seed production. Other forage species should be available and sheep should be taken completely off of common tansy infestations at least four weeks prior to birthing, as common tansy does

Ideal Timing for Treatment Options		
Spring	Summer	Fall
Hand-pulling		
Mowing (+herbicide)		
Grazing		
Foliar		Foliar

contain toxins that have been shown to cause abortions in livestock.

### Herbicide

The herbicide chart on the back lists approved controls for common tansy. Always consult product labels and read them carefully to ensure correct species/land management usage and chemical application.



## Common Tansy Life Cycle

Life Cycle	Root	Leaves	Stems	Flower	Seed/Fruit	Toxic
Perennial	Rhizomatous	Leaves alternate, consistent in size along stem, and deeply divided into fern-like leaflets with toothed edges.	1 to 6 feet tall, often purplish-red.	Numerous (20 to 100) yellow-orange, button-like flower heads appear in flat-topped, dense clusters at the top of stem. Flowers lack long petals.	Yellowish-brown with toothed ridges.	Horses, cattle, humans

## Herbicides for Common Tansy, *Tanacetum vulgare*

Active Ingredient	Rate	Efficacy	Comments
2-4,D	1-2 qt/acre	Rapidly growing plants before flowering.	Best results with wiper applications, provides only partial control in most trials. Broadleaf-selective safe on most grasses. Minimal soil activity. Do not apply in 80 degree+ weather.
Aminocyclopyrachlor + chlorosulfuron	4.75-8 oz/acre	Apply Postemergence, most effective to plants in flower bud stage.	Broad spectrum herbicide for many broadleaf species. Generally safe for grasses, may suppress or injure certain annual/perennial grass species. Avoid root zone; no more than 11oz/year. Add adjuvant.
Aminopyralid + metsulfuron	2.5-3.3 oz/acre	Postemergence when plants are at bud or later.	Not registered in California. Do not allow drift to desirable vegetation.
Metsulfuron	1-2 oz/acre	Postemergence at flower bud stage.	Always use a surfactant. Other premix formulations with metsulfuron can be used at similar application timing.
Chlorosulfuron	1-2 oz/acre	Postemergence at flower bud stage.	Always use a surfactant. Most established perennial grasses are tolerant.
Glyphosate	1-2 qt/acre	Apply to growing thistle after the bud growth stage.	Glyphosate is nonselective and will kill any vegetation it comes in contact with. Spray for uniform coverage, not for runoff.
Picloram	1 pint/acre	Apply to growing thistle after most leaves emerge but before bud stage.	Do not apply to shallow groundwater areas. Avoid desirable broadleaf plants.

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