



HOARY ALYSSUM

Berteroa incana

CONTROL

Hand Pulling

Hand pulling is an effective method of control when used on small infestations and scattered individuals just establishing or missed by herbicide treatments. Effective hand pulling requires the removal of the tap root, which is most easily accomplished when soil is moist. Repeated treatments are required to deplete the seed bank, and all plants that are past bud stage should be removed in plastic bags and burned to prevent seed spread. Maintaining healthy plant communities through crop rotations and irrigation management is the best way to prevent spread of the plant.

Mowing

Mowing alone is not a recommended method of control for hoary alysum due to the damage to competitive desirable forage.

Biological control

N/A

Grazing

To date grazing has not been used as a method to control hoary alysum and is not recommended due to its acute toxicity to ruminants, in particular, horses.

Ideal Timing for Treatment Options		
Spring	Summer	Fall
Hand-pulled/Bagged/Burned		
Foliar spray		Foliar spray

Herbicide

Due to hoary allysum’s tendency to germinate throughout the growing season, repeated treatments are needed to deplete the seed bank in established infestations of hoary allysum. The herbicide chart on the back lists approved controls for hoary allysum. Always consult product labels and read them carefully to ensure correct species/land management usage and chemical application.



Hoary Alyssum Life Cycle

Life Cycle	Root	Leaves	Stems	Flower	Seed/Fruit	Toxic
Annual, biennial to short-lived perennial	Taproot	Grayish-green with star-shaped hairs. Basal leaves, 1 to 2 inches long with slender stalks. Stem leaves face upward, pressed to stem. Lower leaves with short stalks, upper leaves lack stalks.	1 to 3½ feet tall, erect, branched, covered with star-shaped hairs.	White, 1/10 to 2/10 inch long. 4 deeply notched petals on slender stalks.	Flattened oval seed pods 2/10 to 3/10 inch long. Pods contain 6 to 14 seeds. A clear translucent divider between the pod chambers remains after the seeds fall out.	Horses

Herbicides for Hoary Alyssum, *Berteroa incana*

Active Ingredient	Rate	Efficacy	Comments
Metsulfuron	1 oz/ acre	Most effective when applied to rosette or bud stages with a non-ionic surfactant	Do not use near wells, surface water, or shallow ground water
Chlorosulfuron	1 oz/ acre	Most effective when applied to rosette or bud stages with a non-ionic surfactant	
Metsulfuron +Aminopyralid	1 oz/ acre	Most effective in spring or fall when applied to rosettes or seedlings	Apply only to pasture, rangeland, and non-crop sites
2-4,D	3-4 lb ae/a	Most effective in spring when applied to rosettes prior to bolting	Avoid drift to sensitive crops

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