



JVCWMA
People Working Together
Toward a Common Goal

JORDAN VALLEY COOPERATIVE WEED MANAGEMENT AREA
Organized to Prevent and Manage Noxious Weeds



Puncturevine

Description: Commonly called goatheads, it is one of the most obnoxious and irritating of all weeds. A perennial plant in its native range, in cooler northern climates it is a summer annual. Stems are prostrate and radiate from a central root crown extending to 3 feet or more in diameter. Latin name Tribulus means three pointed and each fruit separates into four or five three pronged burs, each containing two or more seeds. These seed capsules are very hard and durable, making them resistant to drought, moisture rot insect feeding or predation by seed feeding rodents and birds. These capsules help preserve the seeds for up to 20 years. These sharp spines also provide this weed with an easy way to get its seeds spread around. Stems are highly branched and brown on mature plants. Five pedal bright yellow flowers are borne from the leaf axil. From flowering to viable seed can be as short as 3 weeks. Leaves are opposite and divided into 3-7 leaflets on a short petiole. Can be toxic, mainly to sheep in early spring.

Habitat: Prefers disturbed well drained sandy and loose soils. Found along roadsides, canals, in pastures and cultivated fields.

Origin: Mediterranean region of Europe and Africa.



Control

It is important to control puncturevine stands before they produce flowers and seeds.

Cultural: Healthy desirable plant competition can out compete puncturevine where soil conditions allow.

Mechanical: Hoeing, pulling, and digging can deplete puncturevine infestations. If done after flowering, make sure the seeds are not dislodged and that the plants are bagged and thrown away.

Mowing is not effective because of the prostrate growth pattern of the plant.

Chemical Treatment:

2,4-D: Seedlings, will need to retreat when new seedlings emerge.

Glyphosate: Seedlings, will need to retreat when new seedlings emerge.

Telar: Late Fall or Late Winter. Pre-emergent control

Dicamba: Seedling

Krovar: Apply before weeds emerge

Always read and follow label directions on any chemicals.

It's the law!

Join us! We need your input.

The JVCWMA office is located at 508 Swisher Ave. Please call before coming to town, I may be out in the field.



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